



Make a Story

STUDENT ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

Materials Needed:

- Writing utensil
- Paper/notebook
- Coloring pencils/markers (optional)
- Construction paper (optional)
- Smartphone (optional)
- Computer (optional)
- Peers/Family Members (optional)
- Video Camera/Smartphone Camera (optional)
- Anything that'll help you build your story, get creative!

Introduction (Read before doing the activity)

You will create your own story about the bird you chose to teach the other students about it. You can choose whatever format that most speak to you (Ex: Podcast interview, comic book strip, short story, informational video, write a play, etc.) This story should include what is impacting your species and why it's declining.

Activity Instructions:

For Video Stories:

- a. You can use the following platforms/Apps and any others you find useful for your skill level in video editing that is accessible from your computer or smartphone:
 - i. <https://www.youtube.com/>
 - ii. <https://www.powtoon.com/?locale=en>
 - iii. iMovie
 - iv. <https://toontastic.withgoogle.com/>
 - v. <https://www.wevideo.com/>
 - vi. and many more
- b. Using your notebook and writing utensil (or computer), outline your story including:
 - i. Introduction (Provide an interesting Title)
 1. What is your species
 2. Why have you chosen this species
 - ii. Species life history, physical traits, habitat, ecosystem role, and any other information you've found through your research
 - iii. Why it's declining
 - iv. Any current efforts in protecting your species of choice

- c. Using the platform of your choice
 - i. Watch the tutorials provided or use YouTube to help guide you on how to start filming and creating your video depending on your platform.
- d. Once finished creating, save, upload/download the video, and send to your teacher as a shareable link or through a MP4/MOV file format.

For Audio Stories:

1. You can use the following platforms/Apps and any other you find useful for your skill level in audio recording that is accessible from your computer or smartphone:
 - a. <https://anchor.fm/> , <https://soundcloud.com/> , <https://www.podcast.co/> , for iPhone users <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/apple-podcasts/id525463029> and many more
 - b. Using your notebook and writing utensil (or computer), create a script outline including:
 - i. Introduction
 1. Name of your Podcast and why you created this Podcast
 2. What is your species
 3. Why have you chosen this species
 - ii. Creative storyline explaining
 1. Species life history, physical traits, habitat, ecosystem role, and any other information you've found through your research.
 - iii. Why it's declining
 - iv. Closeout your Podcast
 1. Any current efforts in protecting your species of choice
 - c. Using the platform of your choice
 - i. Watch the tutorials provided or use YouTube to help guide you on how to start recording and creating your Podcast depending on your platform.
 - d. Once finished recording, save, upload/download the recording according to the instructions give, and send to your teacher as a shareable link or through a MP3 file format.

For Artful & Written Stories:

1. You can use construction paper/notebook paper, drawing tools such as pencils, pen, coloring pencils/markers, as well as the following platforms/apps and any others you find useful for your skill level in illustration that is accessible from your computer or smartphone:
 - a. For Comic Strips (Digital and Hand Drawn):
 - i. <https://www.pixton.com/student-comic-builder>
 - ii. <https://www.canva.com/create/comic-strips/>
 - iii. <https://makebeliefscomix.com/Comix/>
 - iv. and many more
 - b. Use construction paper/notebook paper, drawing and coloring tools

- c. For Non-comic Hand/Digital Illustrations:
 - i. Use construction paper/notebook paper, drawing and coloring tools, <https://www.canva.com/> and many more
 - d. For Written Stories:
 - ii. Use your notebook paper and writing utensils, or computer
2. All illustrations and written stories should explain through visual or written documentation:
 - a. Introduction (Provide an interesting title)
 - i. What is your species
 - ii. Why have you chosen this species
 - b. Species life history, physical traits, habitat, ecosystem role, and any other information you've found through your research
 - c. Why it's declining
 - d. Any current efforts in protecting your species of choice
 3. Once finished illustrating, save, upload/download the illustration according to the instructions given, and send to your teacher as a shareable link or through a JPG/PDF/PNG file format, and for written stories save and download your story as a PDF/DOCX file, and send to your teacher.

For Acting Stories:

1. You can use your notebook, writing utensil, computer, smartphone, video camera, any friends/family members who'd like to act out your characters, any household items that'll fit well with your story, and any of the previously mentioned video editing platforms
2. Using your notebook and writing utensil (or computer), create a script outline including:
 - a. Introduction (Provide an interesting Name for your Play)
 - i. What is your species
 - ii. Why have you chosen this species
 - b. Creative storyline explaining
 - i. Species life history, physical traits, habitat, ecosystem role, and any other information you've found through your research
 - ii. Why it's declining
 - iii. Any current efforts in protecting your species of choice
 - c. Film your play using your smartphone/video camera, upload to your computer, and edit with any of the previously mentioned video platforms, or if using a smartphone app, edit using the app's tools, save and upload/download, and send to your teacher as an MP4/MOV file format or a shareable link.

Conclusion

Communication is a key part of the lives of conservationists to help explain to the public the many issues surrounding declining species like the bird that you chose. Knowing how to explain conservation issues to your peers and family members that are important to you through the many types of media and formats used in this activity will go a long way in your future efforts of helping the species in your community.