



# Call to Action

## STUDENT ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

### Materials Needed:

- Writing utensil
- Paper, Notebook
- Internet - capable device for researching examples

### Introduction (Read before doing the activity)

It's time to come up with a plan on what you can do with a few of your classmates to help your chosen species of bird. This could include a variety of actions from doing a trash pickup, to planting native plants in your schoolyard, to writing a letter to a conservation organization in the community. From the previous activity, "Make a Story", you should already have an idea of what is already being done to help conserve your species. Therefore, a great place to start may be to think about how YOU can contribute to these efforts. More can be achieved with a group of friends, so feel free to open your plans to involve your other classmates and have fun with it. Maybe their plans will align with yours!

### Activity Instructions:

1. Review your research on what is impacting the species you chose and the work that is already being done to conserve it.
2. Think about how you, and possibly your classmates, might be able to contribute to the efforts already being done. Questions you might ask yourself:
  - a. What resources are available to you?
  - b. What skills do you have? (Writing, speaking, drawing, organizing, etc.)
  - c. Is the conservation work happening in your area? Would you be able to be onsite or would you have to contribute from a distance?
3. If you think you can contribute to the work that is already being done to conserve the species you chose, make a plan! How are you going to accomplish what you hope to accomplish? Make sure to include the following information:
  - a. What materials will you need?
  - b. Will your classmates need to be involved? How many?
  - c. Do you need to get in contact with someone from an organization? Where can you find their contact information?
  - d. How much time will you need? What dates work best? Create a timeline of tasks that need to be accomplished with "due dates".
  - e. What details might you be forgetting? Walk yourself through the entire process in your mind.

4. Once you have written down your plan, have your teacher and another student look it over to make sure your plan makes sense and to see if you might be forgetting about something.
5. If you don't think you can contribute to the work that is already being done to conserve the species you chose, brainstorm what you might be able to do on your own or with your classmates. Examples of things you could do\*:
  - a. Organize a trash pickup\*
  - b. Plant native plants around the school\*
  - c. Create a school garden\*
  - d. Write a letter to a conservation organization in your community
  - e. Volunteer at a local nature center or community center
  - f. Spread the word about your species by making your project for Activity 2 "Make a Story" public
  - g. Anything else you might think of that can help your species of choice!
6. \*Note: These actions may require permission from a school authority. Ask your teacher who to contact.
7. After you have decided on a project that inspires you and may help conserve your species, it's time to make a plan! How are you going to accomplish what you hope to accomplish? Make sure to include the following information:
  - a. What materials will you need?
  - b. Will your classmates need to be involved? How many?
  - c. Do you need to get in contact with someone from an organization? Where can you find their contact information?
  - d. How much time will you need? What dates work best? Create a timeline of tasks that need to be accomplished with "due dates".
  - e. What details might you be forgetting? Walk yourself through the entire process in your mind.
8. Once you have written down your plan, have your teacher and another student look it over to make sure your plan makes sense and to see if you might be forgetting about something.
9. Whether you can contribute to work that is already being done, or you have decided to start a new project, it is time to implement you plan! In other words, let's put your plan into action. Have fun and good luck!

## Conclusion

Taking action on issues you care about can be beneficial in a number of ways. For one thing, it is empowering! It can make you feel more confident and involved in your community. But of course, these actions not only benefit you, but also the species you are conserving, the environment in which that species lives, and the entire community of people, plants, and animals that surround that species. It is important to protect our natural resources, as they are the basis for our ability to sustain life. Congratulations on taking action in your community! You rock!