



Thunk! What Hit the Window

STUDENT ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

Materials Needed:

- Pencil or pen
- Paper, notebook, and/or note-taking device
- Materials for study (will determine during activity)

Introduction (Read before doing the activity)

Researchers estimate that glass collisions likely kill between 365 million and 1 billion bird annually in the United States. You have learned how and why this occurs in the previous parts of this lesson. Now it is time to use that knowledge to prevent birds striking the windows around you. In this activity you will conduct a study to determine which windows birds are hitting in your classroom, school, or home and implement preventative solutions.

Activity Instructions:

1. Avian Window Collision Study: Methodology
 - a. First, you will need to determine which building or which windows you would like to study to determine which windows birds are hitting the most and need to be treated.
 - b. After determining your study area (likely your school, classroom, or home windows), you must determine your study methods. Consider the following questions:
 - i. How will you label each window in your study?
 - ii. How will you record the information you collect?
 - iii. What information do you need to collect about the birds you find?
 - iv. How often will you check for window collisions?
 - v. When will you collect data? What time of year? What time of day?
 - c. For ideas on study design, check out this video on the methods and results of a study by Johnson County Community College:
 - i. Note: Video is about 54 min in length. Feel free to skip through to determine what information may be helpful to you for your study.
 - d. Once you have your study area and methodology determined, begin collecting data! To collect a substantial data set, your study will likely have to be conducted over 2-3 months. Be patient and have fun adapting your study!
2. Conduct your study and collect all data based off the methodology you laid out.

3. Avian Window Collision Study: Results

a. Once you have conducted your study and collected all the necessary data, it is time to begin analyzing your results. Think about the best ways to display or share the information you collected.

b. Create a 1-2 page report on your findings including the appropriate graphs, tables, and pictures.

i. Make sure your graphs, tables, and pictures are well labeled.

4. Avian Window Collision Study: Discussion & Action

a. After reporting on your findings, what did you find to be significant? Were there any windows that were hit by birds more frequently than others? Were there any windows that were not hit at all? Record your thoughts in your notes.

b. After reviewing your results, what actions do you recommend be taken to prevent window strikes in your chosen study area? Create a plan in your notes for how these preventative measures can be implemented. Your plan should include:

i. At least three different options for window treatment

ii. What the cost of each treatment would be

iii. Who will "install" these window treatments? You? Students?

Parents/Guardians? Teachers? Maintenance staff?

iv. How will you raise the money or fundraise to install these window treatments?

v. For ideas on window treatments: <https://abcbirds.org/glass-collisions/>

c. After creating your implementation plan, talk to your teacher or parent/guardian about making the plan happen! It may take some time and resources, but helping birds is so important and meaningful for both you and the community. Go for it!

Conclusion

Congratulations on developing a study to find out more about the bird window strikes on your building and creating a plan to help prevent future window strikes. You helped make a difference for birds and if more students like you got involved, together we could have a big impact. You deserve 10 gold stars!

