

BirdSleuth: Developed at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

BirdSleuth Mission To create innovative K-12 resources that build science skills while inspiring young people to connect to local habitats, explore biodiversity, and engage in citizen science projects. 2 activities on scientific method and teachers guide.

BirdSleuth: Investigating Evidence

Go to the web link below for Teachers Guide (24 MB), and Bird Journal and Resource Pages

<http://www.birdsleuth.org/investigating-evidence-2/#.UjMftFLgXTo>

National Science Education Standards, Grade 5–8

What is BirdSleuth?

Science is sleuthy! Scientists observe carefully and collect evidence and data, they conduct investigations, and they draw evidence-based conclusions. BirdSleuth helps bring the excitement of scientific investigation to students everywhere. BirdSleuth is a growing series of inquiry-based, interdisciplinary science modules for elementary and middle school students developed at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

BirdSleuth: Most Wanted Birds and **BirdSleuth: Exploring Bird Behavior** are the first two modules of the curriculum. This module, **BirdSleuth: Investigating Evidence**, continues inquiries begun in the other modules, and is available online.

Both Most Wanted Birds and Exploring Bird Behavior focus on learning to identify birds and participate in the Lab’s Citizen Science program. Through citizen-science projects, people across the continent make important contributions to science by collecting data about their local birds and sending the information to scientists who study bird populations and develop bird conservation programs. Most Wanted Birds brings the Lab’s newest and largest citizen-science project—eBird—to students in both formal and informal educational settings. Exploring Bird Behavior is focused on learning about bird behavior through focused study of corvids (crows and their relatives) through the Crows Count citizen-science project.

Through BirdSleuth, students learn to observe birds carefully, to ask questions based on their observations, and then to figure out how to answer their questions and share their results. Specifically, this module, Investigating Evidence, provides support as students participate in the scientific process by asking and answering bird-related questions and then sharing their results. It is probably most useful as a continuation or capstone to one of the other BirdSleuth modules.

Investigating Evidence conforms to many of the National Science Education Standards (NSES) for grades 5 through 8 (see the table on page v).