



Birds

Migration News Story

Age: 7-14

Topic: PSHE, Geography,
Literacy, Drama

Time: 2 hours



What should learners already know?

- Some birds migrate during the winter.

What equipment will I need?

- Writing materials
- Access to the internet for researching migrations
- Costumes (if this will be turned into a performance)

How will learners explore this?

1. Children will be using their creative writing and researching skills to create a news report (either a TV or newspaper piece) on their chosen bird's migration story.
2. Start by allowing each child to choose a bird which migrates to another country every year.
3. Children will use the internet to research their chosen bird's migration route.
4. Encourage children to focus on factors such as: Where does it start and stop? What time of year does it start the migration? How long does it spend in each place? Where does it rest along the way? How long does the bird fly for each day while it is migrating? Where do they sleep? Why do they migrate?
5. Children will be using their research to create a news report. Encourage them to use their creative writing skills to make the report exciting and eye-catching while containing all the important information. Can they write a newspaper piece describing the journey?
6. Optional extension: Encourage children to present a 2 minute TV news segment on the migration of their chosen bird and present to the class. They can even dress up as news presenters if they wish!

How can we show the learning?

- Encourage children to think about why it is important for birds to migrate. How does this link to the seasons and how may climate change affect migration patterns?
- Discuss with children whether they can think of any birds in their school grounds which migrate during the winter. Challenge them to use their foodweb learning to explain some different ways in which bird migrations may affect other animal groups.
- Ask children to reflect on what makes a good news report. How can we balance making our reporting exciting whilst ensuring we report all the necessary facts? Why is it important to make sure news reports are factual and complete?



Did you know:

The arctic tern has the longest migration – from the Arctic to the Antarctic every year!



Birds migrate at different times of year depending on where they travel to. Migratory birds go north during spring to breed (known as the 'great north rush') and south during autumn to avoid the cold of the winter.



Useful sources

The Wildlife Trusts and the RSPB websites have lots of information on UK migratory birds.

If you would like to develop your outdoor learning knowledge and skills, take a look at our range of training courses: ltdl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training

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