

HOOVER-SENIOR LAB-OFF-SITE LEARNING PACKET DAY 6

Instructor: Meredith Hoover

Date _____

Program/Class: Animal Science Class - Seniors - Off-site Learning Packet Day 6 Period 1-4

State Indicator/Competency:

2.1.8. Select and implement feeding and watering practices and systems, based on the animal population and purpose.

Instructional Objective(s):

Students will be able to create a bird feeder with 100% accuracy

Method of Instruction:

Worksheet
Student-led

Activities:

Students will be given the handout

Students will read the handout

Students will visit the websites: <https://happyhooligans.ca/32-homemade-bird-feeders/>,
<https://bigdiyideas.com/40-diy-bird-wildlife-feeders/>

Students will be directed to make ONE bird feeder

Students will photograph and or video their bird feeder and submit photos/video to instructor via email hooverme@mwood.cc

NAME: _____
CLASS: _____

DATE: _____

Birds...how to attract them?

<https://happyhooligans.ca/32-homemade-bird-feeders/>

<https://bigdiyideas.com/40-diy-bird-wildlife-feeders/>



Let's make some feeding stations for our Ohio birds who will need lots of energy to hatch their babies soon!

As opposed to a single bird feeder, a feeding station provides for the needs of a variety of birds and wildlife. By providing an appropriate arrangement of feeder styles and different kinds of food, and by including plant cover and water, the variety and number of birds and small mammals that visit the area can be increased.

Several feeding stations at various locations will provide for the greatest variety of wildlife.

There are many different types of feeders commercially available. Making your own, from extensive woodworking projects to simple craft projects using household materials, can be fun and effective.

While feeding birds and other wildlife is rewarding and educational, the greatest long-term benefit for students and wildlife would be to incorporate the planting of food-producing plants (shrubs, trees, grain) along with providing feeders.

Many people feed birds during the winter months, yet additional benefits both for birds and people are offered by providing food all year long. Young birds will visit their parents in the spring and summer and a variety of seasonal plumages can be observed in common birds throughout the year.

Birds have definite preferences for the kinds of food they like and how they like to eat. Some birds prefer grain and seeds, some fruit, others are attracted to animal fat (suet). Different birds prefer to feed at different heights, from grain scattered directly on the ground to platforms or feeders elevated on posts or in trees.

The more variety you provide, the greater variety of birds you can attract.

A critical point in planning a feeding station is to ensure that there is protective cover nearby. Shelter provided by brush piles, evergreen trees, shrubs, and bushes serves as a staging area as birds wait in line to visit the feeder. Dense cover also provides protection from the weather and predators.

In addition to feeders for birds, simple feeders can be provided to attract squirrels and chipmunks. While their presence at an urban bird feeder is often quite a nuisance, if squirrel feeding is incorporated into planned, maintained, feeding station, it is fun and educational.

The following suggestions, tips and illustrations may help you plan your feeding station.

Commercial wild bird seed mixtures may not be the most economical or effective mix to provide for seed eaters. A mixture of black oil sunflower seeds (50%), white proso millet (30%), and cracked

corn (20%) is a simple and appealing recipe for many Midwestern birds. The grains are available at most grain elevators, feed stores and grocery stores.

A variety of feeders at various elevations should be included. Feeders designed to dispense a single type of food, such as tube thistle feeders and basket or cage suet feeders are effective.

Simple platforms either raised on a post or near the ground provide easy access. However, the grain must be replaced when wet or snow covered. Platform feeders with roofs keep food dry and available.

Grain simply scattered on the ground near cover provides for many species.

Dispenser-type hopper feeders have the advantage of storing food to be dispensed as needed, requiring less maintenance.

The more sheltered your feeding station location the better. Strong winds and open spaces will discourage birds from visiting.

Visit the websites to increase your knowledge of building bird feeders.

Set up your bird feeding station near a window you are commonly at or near a cozy space in your yard where you sit a lot or maybe have the desire to sit a lot and just never get to.

- Check out the websites: <https://happyhooligans.ca/32-homemade-bird-feeders/>, <https://bigdiyideas.com/40-diy-bird-wildlife-feeders/> for great ideas on how to DIY your bird feeder
- Build your feeder
- Fill it with food
- Hang your feeder up outside for the birds where you can easily see it
- Photograph/video your feeder with your phone or camera.
- Email your feeder pictures/videos to hooverme@mwood.cc

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- **Keep your feeder up as it will be used in further lessons**

Closure:

Feeder completed

Assessment:

Pictures or video submitted