

Engaging Children and Youth:

CD SUN CATCHERS

AGES 4-6

Topic: Reducing Bird Collisions

Time: ~25 minutes

Objective: Participants will learn that birds are an important part of our communities, and that our faith tells us, we have a special responsibility to help protect them. Even the youngest people can make a big difference.

Supplies:

- Have participants/community members bring in old CD's or DVD's (one or more per participant)
- Permanent Markers
- Yarn (2 feet per participant)
- Newspaper to protect your work surface

Optional: Invite participants to bring a special item from home that represents birds. It can be a picture from a magazine, a stuffed animal, book, etc.

For installing at home (if appropriate)

- Nails
- Hammer

Resources for Leaders:

- [Why do Birds Matter?](#)
- [Why Birds Hit Windows- And How You Can Help Prevent It](#)
- [Birds by State](#)
- [Colorful CD Sun Catchers](#)

Welcome/Introduction

Leader: We're joining millions of people across the planet who are celebrating Earth Day! This year, the theme of Earth Day is Protect Our Species. We'll be learning about what our faith tells us about our special responsibility to help protect plants and animals, and how we can help protect birds in our community.

Opening Prayer: See [Prayer Resource page](#)

Scripture or Reading: See [Prayer Resource page](#)

The Importance of Birds

Leader: Birds are an important part of our community by helping to grow plants (by dispersing seeds and helping to pollinate). Many countries across the world have their own special bird. See a list of national birds by country [here](#).

The Problem

Leader: Every year millions of birds collide with windows because they often see their own reflection or nature, reflected in the window.

Leader: If participants brought an item from home that represents a bird, have them share their item and describe what makes it special. What are some things you can do to help protect birds in our community?

Let participants offer suggestions, and suggest a few ideas to get them thinking about how they can reuse products in their homes to address the problem.

Activity:

Pass out a CD to each participant and several permanent markers. Have participants decorate CD's with colorful drawings on both sides. When they're done drawing, thread yarn through the hole and tie at one end. CD's can be hung in front of windows either outside or inside within your faith community or at home.

Closing:

Ask the children what they have learned today. Why is protecting birds important to our faith?

Closing Prayer: See Prayer Resource page