



## ***Teacher Grant Program Instructions September 2023***

### **St. Johns Regional Audubon Grant Program for Teachers**

St. Johns Regional Audubon (SJRA) has a grant program for young birders who want to engage in a conservation or educational project related to birds.

We have expanded this project to include funding for teachers working in St. Johns County and the area of Putnam County that is part of our geographic territory (SJRA Area) who want to develop a curriculum or program related to birds or bird habitat or bird-related conservation. We'll help teachers bring their projects to life by providing mentors, as well as provide funding for materials up to **\$500.00** per project.

#### **WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM?**

Elementary, middle, and high school teachers working in the SJRA Area are eligible for this grant program.

#### **WHAT?**

We will fund a teacher's costs to develop a curriculum or program related to birds and/or conservation of bird habitat.

#### **WHERE?**

The teacher must work in the SJRA Area and can be a public or private school teacher.

#### **WHEN?**

Grants applications will be accepted January through May, and September through December. Grant awardees will be required to complete their project within 60 days of acceptance, unless we give you an extension of time.

#### **WHY?**

Northeast Florida is a special place for birds, but they need our help!

If you have questions regarding this grant program, please contact Ms. Kate Milutin at [education@stjohnsaudubon.com](mailto:education@stjohnsaudubon.com)



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### **How to Apply for a Grant**

1. Complete the St. Johns Regional Audubon Grant application and a worksheet and submit it to Ms. Kate Milutin at [education@stjohnsaudubon.com](mailto:education@stjohnsaudubon.com) or mail your application to the following address:

St. Johns Regional Audubon  
27 Fishermans Cove Rd.  
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Attn: Ms. Kate Milutin

2. Someone from SJRA will contact you within 30 days about your application.

### **Our Review of Your Application**

3. We will do a preliminary review of your project and worksheet.
4. If we believe that you have a manageable project, we will match you with a mentor from SJRA, who will review your application with you and may have some suggestions about how it can be approved.
5. If you and your mentor agree that revisions are needed, you will need to submit a revised application. If your mentor does not see the need for any revisions, he or she will let us know that the application is final and ready for us to decide whether or not it should be approved.
6. When your application is approved by the SJRA Board of Directors, we will inform you of the amount of funding the SJRA is willing to provide.
7. You should begin implementing your project within 60 days of your grant award.

### **Working on Your Project**

8. In order to provide funding, we will need you to provide us copies of all receipts for materials and supplies you purchased for your project.
  - A. If possible, we prefer that you purchase the materials you will need and be reimbursed by us.
  - B. However, if that is not possible, we may purchase any necessary materials for you

directly.

9. Keep your mentor informed of your progress and don't be afraid to ask your mentor for advice.
10. As you work on your project, take photos and/or videos of your progress and send them to Ms. Milutin. When you complete your project, take more photos and/or videos of your project, so that we can help you celebrate your success!
11. After completion, you should plan to report to SJRA with 5 to 10 digital images and/or a short video, as well as a written observation of your results.

## **Ideas for Projects**

- **Host a science fair focused on birds and habitat**
  - Test different types of birdseed
  - Owl Pellet investigation
  - Dissect an egg
  - Bird flight
  - Bird migration
  - Study what colors birds are attracted to
- **Create an art project and/or unit related to birds**
  - Use objects to build nests
  - Study bird anatomy and create "bird art" to show understanding of concepts,
  - Study raptors and sew 3-D recreations of real birds
- **Have your class participate in the Project Feeder**  
**Watch program:** <https://feederwatch.org/about/detailed-instructions/>
  - Learn how to receive up to four free bird feeders for your school
  - Set up a bird feeder trail on your school campus
  - Provide real life experience using tallies, recording data, submitting information to scientists at Cornell via eBird



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- **Plant a bird and butterfly friendly garden area**
  - Learn about native plants and how easy it is to take care of them
  - Find out why plants are so important to birds
  - Learn what makes good habitat and even certify your garden as a natural habitat
- **Develop your own idea – we would love to fund new ideas!**

***Please feel free to contact Kate Milutin for further ideas for projects or with any questions at [education@stjohnsaudubon.com](mailto:education@stjohnsaudubon.com)***

