

# Educational Programs

The Los Gatos Birdwatcher is here to help...

Los Gatos Birdwatcher, formerly Wild Bird Center, Los Gatos, has been offering children's programs since 1995. We specialize in preschool and kindergarten through second grades offering nature classes that engage, inspire, and motivate children to learn about nature and about how we are all connected. Christine Wolf, our education coordinator, brings a special magic to the classroom. She uses puppet shows, story time, and appropriate crafts to reinforce the lesson. Freddy Howell, owner of Los Gatos Birdwatcher, enjoys visiting the schools as a way of giving back to the community that has supported the store's success. Throughout the years, many schools have used our programs to augment their "standards" curriculum. Others have used our programs to inspire writing and art, as well as an understanding of nature.

Our classes are priced fairly and we offer with or without craft pricing.<sup>1</sup> Programs are approximately one hour long, but can be shortened to accommodate classroom schedules. For more information or to schedule a program, call the Los Gatos Birdwatcher at (408)358-9453.

We would be happy to tailor any of the following classes to meet your special needs. Programs currently offered are:

## Nesting Birds

(for ages 3 to 6)

Watch a puppet show, hear a story, and investigate how nests are made as

we learn about the birds nesting in our neighborhood. Make your own pop-up bird nest cup.

Cost: \$15 instructor fee + \$2/child



## Backyard Birds

(for ages 3 and up)

Learn to recognize backyard birds as we watch a puppet show, hear a story and learn some bird calls. Help conserve resources as you make a seed feeder out of a used water bottle.

Cost: \$15 instructor fee + \$3/child

## Birds of Our Neighborhood

(for ages 6 and up)

Learn about the adaptations and habitats of local birds in a slide show presentation. Investigate nests and feathers and see how our feathered friends build their homes.

Cost: \$20 flat fee

## Birds of Prey

(for ages 3 and up)

Discover what makes birds of prey unique, then dissect an owl pellet to investigate what an owl ate or make an owl puppet to take home.

Cost: \$15 instructor fee +  
\$2/child with puppet or  
\$4/child with owl pellet or  
\$2/child with ½ owl pellet



## Bird ID Class & Walk

(for ages 6 and up)

Discover the joy of birdwatching. Participate in activities to learn to recognize local birds. Use your new bird identification skills on a guided walk. Available in 1 or 2 sessions. (Loaner binoculars are available.)  
+ \$3/child



## Hummingbirds

(for ages 3 and up)

Watch a puppet show and participate in other activities to learn all about hummingbirds. Paint a watercolor hummingbird mobile to take home.

Cost: \$15 instructor fee + \$2/child

<sup>1</sup> To help you economize, a \$20 flat class fee is available for all programs done without the craft or project.

## Duck Discovery

(for ages 3 and up)

Learn all about ducks as you hear a story and conduct a simple experiment.



Make a puppet or duck identification chart to take home.

**Cost: \$15 instructor fee + \$2/child**

## Butterflies

(for ages 3 and up)

Learn about the intriguing life cycle and adaptations of butterflies as we watch a puppet show, sing a song, and do a magic trick. Create your own caterpillar, chrysalis, and butterfly.

**Cost: \$15 instructor fee + \$2/child**

## Neighborhood Bats

(for ages 3 and up)

Participate in activities to learn about these fascinating and helpful neighbors.

Design your own bat in its roost or a pencil topper.



**Cost: \$15 instructor fee + \$2/child**

## Spiders

(for ages 3 and up)

Learn about these helpful creatures as we watch a puppet show and observe some local spiders.

Make your own spider to take home.

**instructor fee + \$2/child**



## Animal Tracks

(for ages 4 and up)

Discover what critters are in your neighborhood by learning the characteristics of common animal tracks and investigating a variety of other animal clues. Use stamps to create your own track identification chart.

**Cost: \$15 instructor fee + \$2/child**



## Weather Watchers

(for ages 3 and up)

Find out about weather and how it can change. Conduct an experiment to learn about the water cycle. Build a simple rain gauge for your class and make your own weather vane to measure wind direction at home.

**Cost: \$15 instructor fee + \$4/child**

## \*Build-a-Seed Feeder

(for ages 6 and up)

Learn about the different birds that are likely to come to the small hopper feeder that you construct from a pre-cut wooden kit. (Includes a packet of seed, use of tools, and instruction.)

**Cost: \$15 instructor fee + \$10/child**

*\* This makes a memorable birthday party! Bring up to 11 friends. One adult helper per 2-3 kids is recommended. Most afternoons and Sunday times are available.*

## Build-a-Large Seed Feeder

(for ages 8 and up)

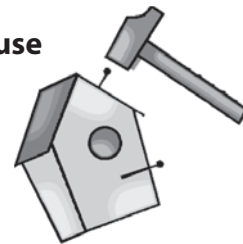
Construct a more complex wooden hopper feeder, twice the size of the small hopper, as you learn about the different birds it is likely to attract. (Includes a packet of seed, use of tools, and instruction.)

**Cost: \$15 instructor fee + \$18/child**

## Build-a-Bird House

(for ages 6 and up)

Help increase the avian housing by building a wooden house for cavity nesters.



Learn about what birds are likely to inhabit your nest box in the spring.

**Cost: \$15 instructor fee + \$18/child**

(small house for chickadees)  
**\$20/child**  
(large house for bluebirds and woodpeckers)

## Build-a-Bat House

(for ages 6 and up)

Learn about the importance of bats as you construct a wooden bat house. Hanging recommendations are included or you may donate it to a local park.

**Cost: \$15 instructor fee + \$20/child**



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