

Michigan Raptor Migration Teaching Network

The Michigan Raptor Migration Teaching Network seeks to support educators in experiencing and sharing the science of raptor migration with K-12 students. We do this by...

- Curating teaching materials related to bird and raptor migration
- Bringing educators together to experience raptor migration
- Coordinating a learning community to develop lessons inspired by Michigan raptor migration and existing data sets
- Supporting connections between count sites and local schools



Michigan has unique geography, ecology and culture related to migratory birds. The migration patterns of birds of prey are particularly fascinating because of the large hawks, owls and eagles that migrate along Michigan's shorelines. In K-12 classrooms, there is a current trend to bring place-based examples of environmental importance into lessons. Michigan's raptor migration ecology is an exciting local example that teachers would be interested to learn more about and use in place-based teaching.



hmana.org/mrmtn



Bethany Burnett

Allegan Public Schools, 4th Grade

About Bethany: My fascination with birds started when I was in high school. My science teacher was a birder and his excitement and enthusiasm for the feathered creatures

carried over. I am happy to be around other people who have a similar interest, while also learning more about raptors and their migration.

Favorite MRMTN Memory: Standing on the deck at Whitefish point while broadwings and sharp-shins flew overhead.

Lesson Description & Audience

4th grade: Students will create a slide presentation to share important facts about raptors and raptor migration. Students will learn how to conduct web-based research, chart data, and present their research to families and 1st grade buddies. This lesson includes standards from reading, writing, math, and science.

About My School and Students

Many of my students come from a low socio-economic background. Though they struggle with grade-level curriculum, they are eager to learn.



Cindy Eichbauer

Allegan Public Schools, High School

About Cindy: I am interested in learning more about Michigan raptors and developing ways to bring that information to my students. I enjoy leading students to discover and

experience ecology in our local community and the Great Lakes Area.

Favorite MRMTN Memory: meeting other educators (traditional and nontraditional) who share the same interest in learning about raptor migration.

Lesson Description & Audience

9th & 10th grade: My lessons support students to research different raptors and their adaptations during their Genetic Unit and then analyzing migration data in the Great Lakes area during their Ecology Unit.

About My School and Students

I teach 9 & 10th grade Biology students who are witty, curious, and smart.

