

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



Rich Bacolor
Science Consultant

I am a lifelong Michigander with a deep interest in connecting young people to the wonders of science in their own backyards.

Favorite MRMTN Memory: Watching experts reach into a tube made of coffee cans to carefully handle and release a recently banded Red-Tailed Hawk.

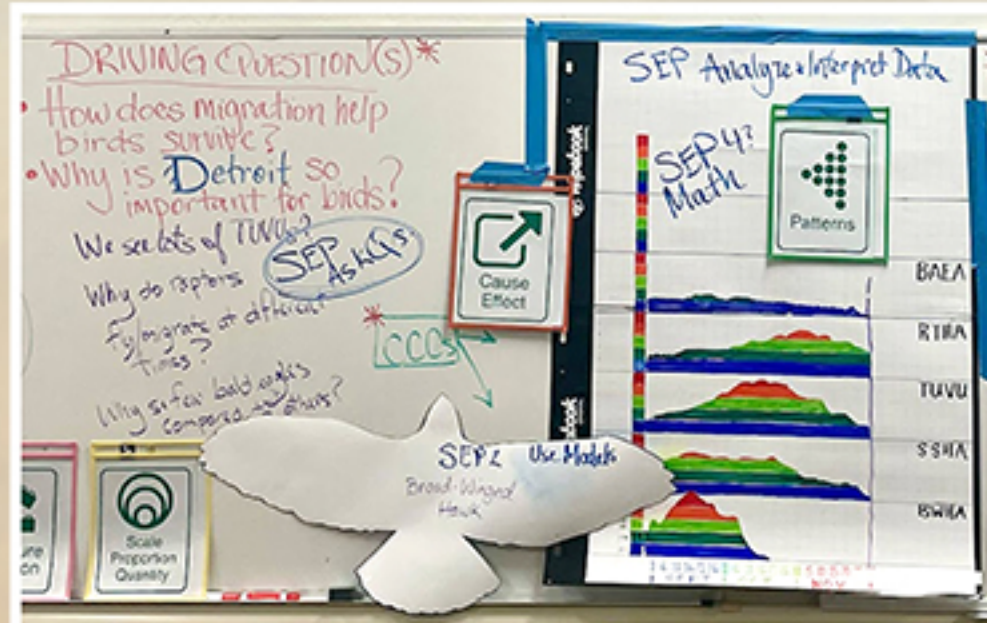
Watching experts reach into a tube made of coffee cans to carefully handle and release a recently banded Red-Tailed Hawk.

Lesson Description & Audience

I developed a 5E and NGSS Model lesson cycle that is intended to engage students in multiple aspects of hawk watching and raptor research. My goal is to show teachers that there are many entry points for students to investigate hawk migration.

About My School and Students

I taught middle school science at Pierce Middle School in South Redford for twenty years. I now work as a science curriculum specialist for the 33 districts and 100+ charter schools in Wayne County, Michigan.



Russell K. Columbus
Monroe Public Schools, High School

About Russ: I am excited to be a part of a group that is working on curriculum about something that interests me and to be able to work with like-minded folks.

Favorite MRMTN Memory: My favorite memory would have to be the time spent at Whitefish Point in the Spring.

Lesson Description & Audience

10-12th grade: My lesson is part of my energy unit and includes activities designed for students with a good understanding of scientific modeling.

About My School and Students

This semester I am teaching 2 college prep and 1 core section of Physics. I teach 70 students, from diverse racial and cultural backgrounds, mostly sophomores, juniors and a couple of seniors in my classes.

