

## **Ecoexplorers: Ornithology**

Instructor: Rachel Ameche

Get ready to explore the wild and wonderful world of ecology! In this 4-session course, we'll discover why birds sing, how bees dance, why flowers bloom, and what secrets trees are hiding. With hands-on activities, outdoor adventures, and cool facts, you'll never look at nature the same way again!

In Session 1, we'll become bird scientists (ornithologists!) as we take a closer look at the amazing ways birds survive, thrive, and evolve. Why do some birds sing and others stay silent? Why are some bright and flashy, while others blend into the trees? We'll learn how birds are classified, how they've adapted to their environments, and what they can teach us about ecosystems and evolution. From hawks to hummingbirds, this unit will help you see the world through the eyes (and wings) of birds.

**Class Expectations:** This class will involve outside birding and nature journaling as well as classroom learning and activities. Students should come to class prepared with their nature journal and be ready to participate in discussion and activities.

**Materials:** It is highly recommended students have binoculars. I also recommend they have a journal for notes and drawings, although they may use loose leaf paper.

Grades will be based 50% on participation and 50% on completed work.