

This journal is provided to you by the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey for use while watching the Duke Farms EagleCam, located in central New Jersey.

You can use this journal as a group – keeping a classroom log of observations. Come up with a group question and spend time each day observing the eagle nest and recording data. Analyze your data as a group and come up with some conclusions about your discoveries.

Alternatively, the journal can be used on an individual basis. Encourage students to record observations on a daily basis whether at home or in the classroom. Create time each day or week to discuss observations. Encourage them to form hypotheses, spend time recording data, analyzing their results, and coming up with conclusions.

The Duke Farms Eagle Nest is one of over 150 bald eagle nests in New Jersey. By watching the Duke Farms EagleCam, your students are acting like wildlife biologists, taking part in scientific research.

Share your discoveries with Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ!

Email your observations to Jennifer.Zebrowski@ConserveWildlifeNj.org

## 2015 Bald Eagle Nest Observations

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#### **OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THE NEST:**

Describe the bark of the tree where the eagle nest is located - What color is it? Does it look smooth or rough?

Can you see the shape of an individual leaf? If you can, draw a picture of what a leaf looks like:

Look in a *Field Guide to Trees* and try to determine what kind of tree the eagle nest is located. Record your guess here:

How big in diameter do you think the eagle nest is?

#### **OBSERVATIONS ABOUT DIET:**

Bald eagles are birds of prey and they are predators, hunting and eating other animals. Bald eagles feed on a wide variety of animals including fish, rabbits, turtles, as well as other birds such as ducks, gulls, and egrets. Bald eagles will also feed on roadkill such as a white-tail deer.

What type of food have you seen brought back to the nest? Keep an ongoing record here of what type of food has been brought back to the nest and how often it is brought back:

Type of Food:	Number of Times brought to the nest:

### BASED ON YOUR OBSERVATIONS, MAKE SOME CONCLUSIONS AND RECORD THEM HERE:

#### **OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THE ADULT EAGLES:**

Can you tell the difference between the male eagle and the female eagle? *If yes, what is different?* 

Describe the beak of the adult eagle:

Draw a close-up picture of the head of an adult eagle:

#### **OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THE EAGLETS:**

The eagle chicks, or eaglets, grow quickly. It takes about 11 or 12 weeks for the eaglets to hatch, develop, and fledge (or fly for the first time).

What day should the eaglets begin to fledge? (an educated guess)

Watch carefully! What was the date that the first eaglet fledged?

## **OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THE ADULT EAGLES** continued: **RECORD YOUR OBSERVATIONS HERE:** Time: Date: Describe the feet of the adult eagle: Observations: Date: Time: Draw a close-up picture of the feet of an adult eagle: Observations:

Date:

Observations:

Time:

# **RECORD YOUR OBSERVATIONS HERE:** Date: Time: Observations: Date: Time: Observations: Time: Date: Observations:

#### **OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THE EGGS AND CHICKS:**

Describe the eggs (how many, what color and shape, etc.):

What day did the female begin to lay eggs?

What day did the female finish laying eggs?

Eagles will incubate the eggs for about 35 days. What day should the eggs begin to hatch? (an educated guess)

Watch carefully!
Record the date and time each egg hatches:

Egg	Date	Time
1		
. 2	4	
3		
4		

Draw a picture of the eagle chicks depicting what they looked like the day you discovered them:					

#### **CREATE YOUR OWN QUESTION (or hypothesis):**

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Time	
	Time: