



## THE OHS GREAT SCHOOLYARD BIRD COUNT 2026

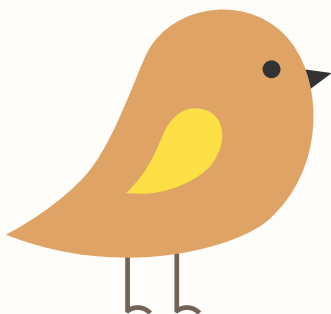
The OHS 5th annual Great Schoolyard Bird Count was held for our local students to learn about birds, bird conservation, habitats, and introduce how students can contribute to science. OHS asked teachers to encourage their students to count birds for 5-15 minutes, report their numbers, and then send in their counts and pictures the students drew of a bird they saw and might be able to identify. We thank teachers and their students at Felina Brown at Gomes Elementary, Renee Angelo at Lincoln Elementary, Diana Kotake-Gomez at Birch Grove Intermediate Elementary, Joleen Diaz at Azeveda Elementary, Daniel Thibodeaux at Cabrillo Elementary, and Loretta Mae Wilson-Haydis at Mattos Elementary for participating in the activity and sending their counts and artwork!

### TEACHER'S COMMENTS & STUDENT PHOTOS & ARTWORK

#### **FELINA BROWN GOMES ELEMENTARY, FREMONT 3RD GRADE**

We did the Gomes school yard bird count and found:

17 crows, 2 hummingbirds, 16 gulls, our resident great blue heron we call Henry, 6 sparrows - not certain what kind of sparrow, but not the kind with the white on head, 2 red-tailed hawks, 1 turkey vulture.





**RENEE ANGELO**  
**LINCOLN ELEMENTARY, NEWARK**  
**2ND GRADE**

Dear Ohlone Humane Society,

I am writing to share our results for the Birds On the Schoolyard activity from my second grade students at Lincoln Elementary School . During a 15-minute observation period, students worked in pairs using binoculars and clipboards to document their findings with tally marks. As a class, we recorded an average of 78 birds during the session.

This hands-on investigation led to thoughtful discussions about bird behavior, migration patterns, habitats, and environmental stewardship. The activity provided an excellent opportunity for students to practice scientific observation skills while deepening their understanding of local wildlife.

In the coming week, students will select one of the birds observed and create detailed drawings while attempting to identify the species. I have attached photographs of the students engaged in the counting of the birds and will share additional images of their completed artwork soon.

Thank you for supporting educational opportunities that foster curiosity, scientific thinking, and environmental awareness among young learners.



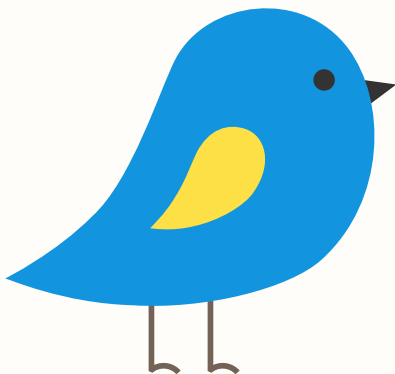
## MORE FROM LINCOLN ELEMENTARY



**MRS. DIANA KOTAKE-GOMEZ  
BIRCH GROVE INTERMEDIATE  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, NEWARK  
4TH GRADE**

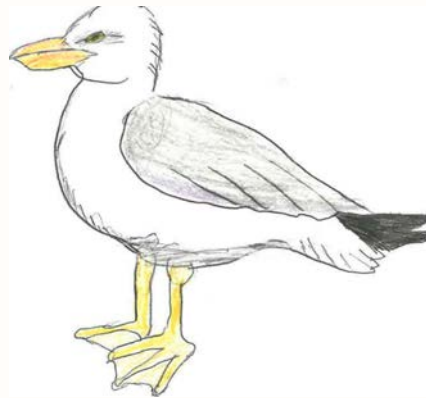
We did go outside, but we didn't get to see too many birds. However, the kids had fun and they have been using the binoculars at recess to do more bird watching!

Here are some photos I was able to take during our event.



**DANIEL THIBODEAUX  
CABRILLO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, FREMONT  
5TH GRADE**

The students had a good time with the project. Think it was the first time most of them had used binoculars before. Unfortunately we mostly just saw seagulls and crows, but that didn't bother the students. Here are the winners of our Birds of Cabrillo Art contest. Thanks again!



**LORETTA MAE WILSON-HAYDIS  
MATTOS ELEMENTARY, FREMONT  
3RD GRADE**

Our bird count as a class was averaged to 55 birds. We had 1,483 as a class divided by 27 students. There were trees full of tiny birds, a couple crows, a couple gulls, sparrows, bluebirds - those are what we think they were.

This was fun and the kids enjoyed tallying on their whiteboards and listening/looking to locate the birds.

