

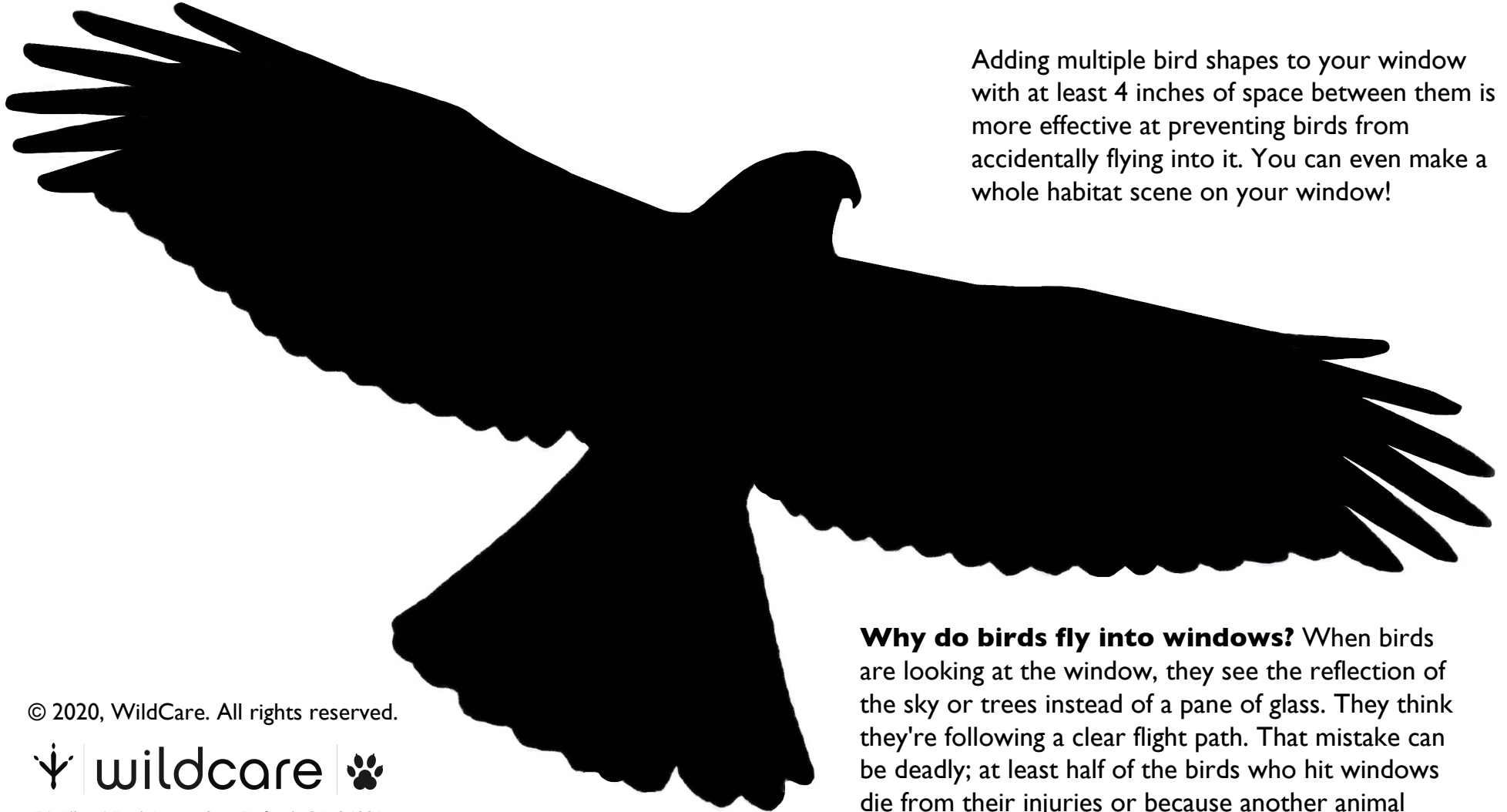
Birds and Windows

Help wild birds around your home with this Nature Super Hero activity!

Simply create hawk-shaped cut outs to display in windows to discourage birds from flying into them and causing injury.

1. Carefully cut out the hawk shape.
2. Decorate the white side of your hawk cut-out however you like, by drawing, coloring, or collaging on it.
3. Tape the hawk to the inside of your window so that the black side of the cut-out faces outside, and the decorated side faces inside.

Adding multiple bird shapes to your window with at least 4 inches of space between them is more effective at preventing birds from accidentally flying into it. You can even make a whole habitat scene on your window!



Why do birds fly into windows? When birds are looking at the window, they see the reflection of the sky or trees instead of a pane of glass. They think they're following a clear flight path. That mistake can be deadly; at least half of the birds who hit windows die from their injuries or because another animal preyed upon them while the bird was stunned.

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Ways to be a Wildlife Hero!

Organize a beach, park, school yard, or neighborhood clean-up! Not only will you help wildlife, but you will see how beautiful the things around us can be.

Have big windows at home or in your classroom? Cut out shapes to decorate the glass so birds don't accidentally fly into it!

Slow down!
Cars and bikes can be a big danger for animals just trying to cross to the other side.

Going to the beach?
If you see any loose fishing line, cut it up into small pieces and throw it away! Pelicans, gulls and other wildlife can get tangled in the line.

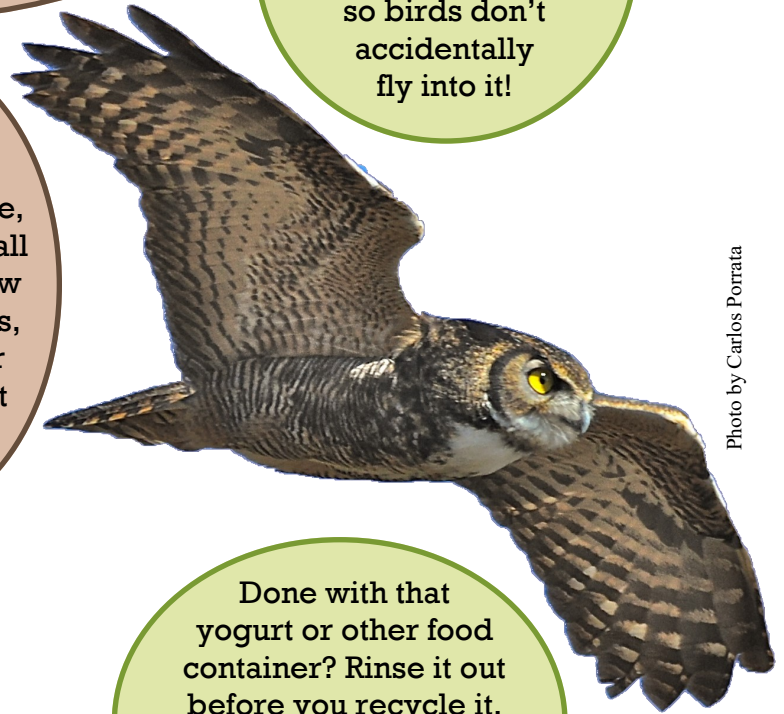


Photo by Carlos Porra

Build a nesting box for owls or bats, and they might thank you by eating some critters you don't want around like bugs or rats!
Visit www.hungryowls.org for instructions!

Done with that yogurt or other food container? Rinse it out before you recycle it, so wild animals don't stick their heads inside—sometimes they can get stuck!

Wild animals can be cute, but these animals should not be our pets. Wild animals do best when they are in their own homes in nature, instead of in our homes.



Photo by Dana Terry

Always keep your cats inside and dogs on leash when they are outside, so they can't harm wild animals!

If you find a sick or hurt wild animal, before you go near it, be sure to tell an adult! They can call WildCare for more help.



Photo by Greg Wilson





If you find a baby wild animal, call WildCare before trying to move it. Baby jackrabbits and fawns may spend the whole day alone while mom gets food, and might just need to be left alone.

Use your reusable bags! Your backpack works great, too!

Host a bake sale, lemonade stand, or ask for donations for your local animal rescue instead of birthday presents. Every penny helps feed and care for wild animals in need!

Throwing a party? Try making your own party decorations instead of buying balloons. Wild animals often mistake balloons for their food.



Photo by Amy Woodward

Spot any six-pack soda rings? Help wild animals from getting caught in them by cutting all of the rings before throwing away.

Don't throw that apple core out the car window! Opossums, skunks, and other wildlife may try to eat it but can get too close to the road. This can cause accidents for both people and animals!

Never feed wild animals people food or your pet's food! They have their own food in nature that they should be eating instead. Our foods and our pet's foods can make them very sick.

Don't chase the birds! Birds and other animals may need a quick break before migrating to a new home. Enjoy watching them rest and relax instead!

Trash isn't good for us, and it's not good for wildlife! Help make sure garbage can lids are on nice and tight. If you see an outdoor bin without a lid, ask for one to be added!

Share what you've learned! Make signs, tell a family member, and keep talking to friends about all the ways that YOU can be a Wildlife Hero!



Photo by Trish Carney

