

Make a Migrating Bird

Make a migrating bird with flapping wings!



Materials Needed:

Flapping Bird Template, scissors, glue, string, crayons or colored pencils.

Instructions:

Step 1: Color the bird and wing pieces. Make them look realistic, or use your imagination! Cut the pieces out along the solid lines.

Step 2: Once the bird has been cut out, turn it over and color the other side.

Step 3: Fold the wings down along the middle dotted line. Then fold upward on each outer dotted line.

Step 4: Tie a piece of string around the wing piece. Glue the wings onto the bird's back, on the spot marked "Wings".

Step 5: Move the string up and down to make the bird flap its wings!



Try This:

- Add legs and a bird band to your bird.
- Make the wings longer, shorter, wider, or narrower. Which shapes are better for flapping?
- Try making an entire flock of birds! Use the same template, or design your own.
- Make up a story about your bird. Where does it spend its summers and winters? What adventures has it had while migrating?



Bird Migration



It is always exciting to spot the first robin in springtime. Have you noticed any American robins yet this year? If not yet, you will soon!

Left: American Robin. *Image: Pixabay.*

It is fun to listen and watch for Sandhill Cranes. Creamer's Field Migratory Bird Refuge in Fairbanks is a great place to see sandhill cranes and other migratory birds.



Sandhill Cranes.

Image: Friends of Creamer's Field.

Why Do Birds Migrate?

Birds migrate to move from areas of low resources to areas of high resources. The two main resources they are looking for are food and nesting locations. In the winter they fly south to warmer places, where more food is available. In the spring they return north to places like Alaska as the weather changes.



Migrating geese. *Image: pxhere.com.*

Summer in Alaska is a great place to be if you're a bird. There's lots of insects, lots of daylight, and less predators. It's also a great place to lay eggs and raise chicks!

Migrating birds use the stars for navigation, as well as the sun, wind patterns, and landforms, all of which help guide them to the same locations each year.

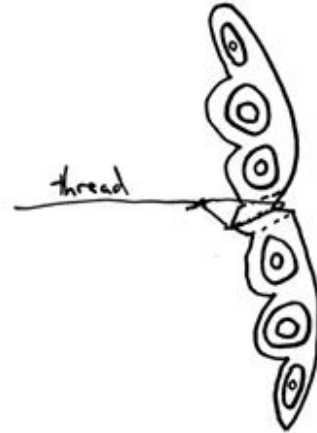
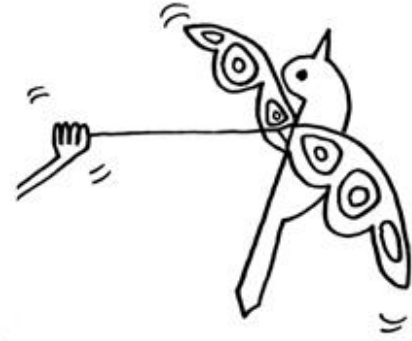
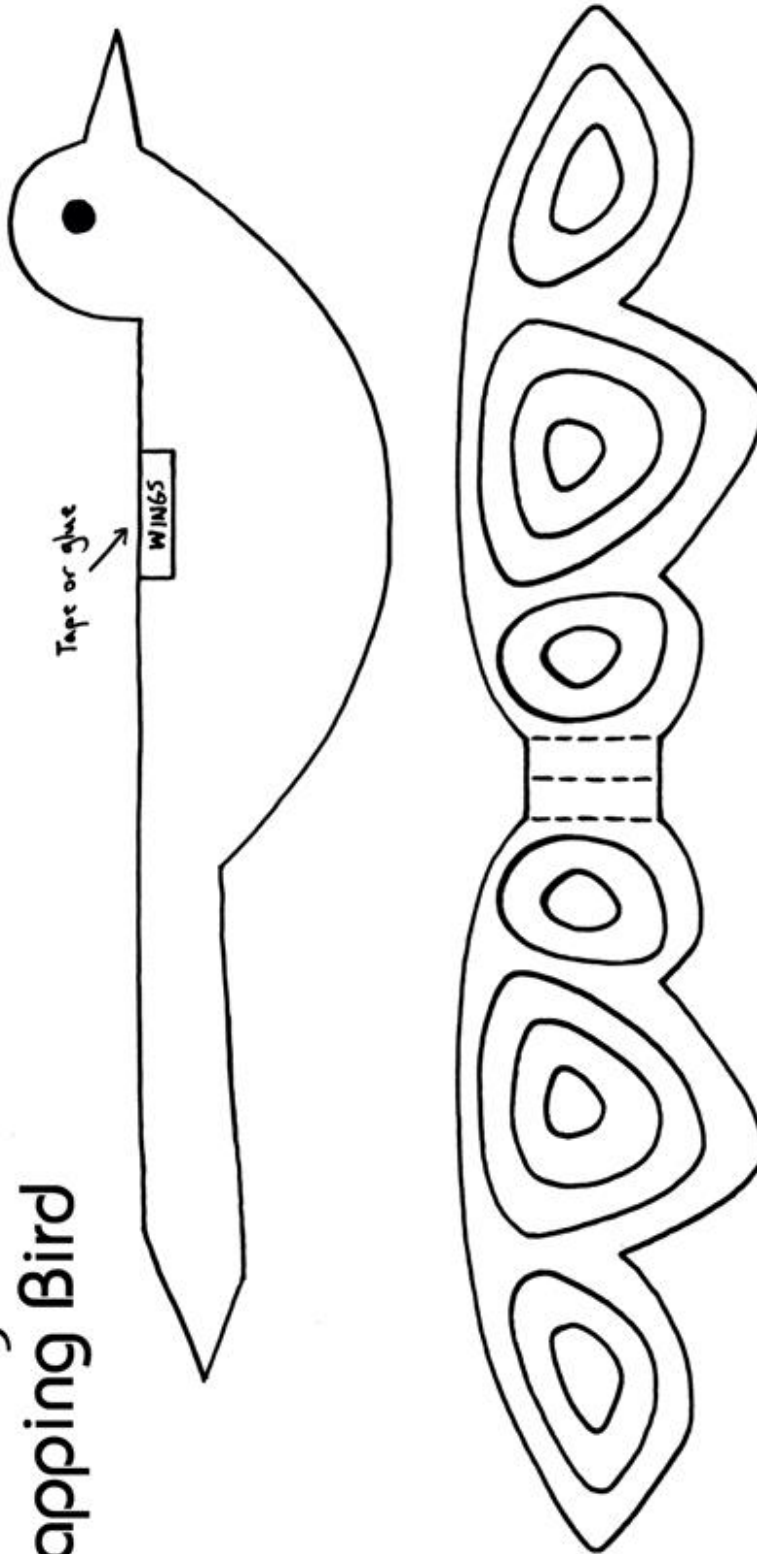
Tracking Migratory Birds

One way researchers learn about migration is by attaching bands to the legs of birds. The bands are colored and have numbers on them, which allows individual birds to be tracked. Banding helps us understand where birds migrate, where they make stops along the way, and where they spend the winter.

If you spot a banded bird or find a band, report it to the US Geological Survey North American Bird Banding Program at: www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/

Flapping Bird Template

made by **JOEL**
Flapping Bird



1. Color your bird and wings.
2. Cut bird and wings out with scissors.
3. Fold wings, then tie on piece of thread.
4. Tape or glue wings onto bird.
5. Start flapping!

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