



**School Program Name:** Birds from Shapes  
**Name of Sanctuary:** Museum of American Bird Art  
**Grade Level:** P-2  
**Location Options:** At your school or afterschool center  
**Time:** 40-45 minutes  
**For more info:** [maba@massaudubon.org](mailto:maba@massaudubon.org); 781-821-8853

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## Program Description

The Mass Audubon Educator will show a replica of a Charlie Harper-Migration. They will ask the children what the photo is and what the birds are made of. They the kids can work together and make a big picture with shapes. Then they can make their own bird art with foam shapes.

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## Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks

**Framework:** Arts  
**Strand:** Visual Arts  
**Topic:** Observation, Abstraction, Invention, and Expression  
Elements and Principals of Design

## Learning Standards

### Observation, Abstraction, Invention, and Expression

PreK-12 Visual Arts #3 Students will demonstrate their powers of observation, abstraction, invention and expression in a variety of media, materials and techniques

### Elements and Principals of Design

PreK-2 Visual Arts #2.4 For shape and form, explore the use of shapes and forms in 2D and 3D

### Purpose and Meaning in the Arts

PreK-2 Visual Arts #6.1 When viewing or listening to examples of visual arts, architecture, music, dance, storytelling, and theatre, ask and answer questions such as, "What is the artist trying to say?" "Who made this, and why?" "How does this work make me feel?"

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## Lesson Objectives

What will students know and be able to do? These objectives must be observable and measurable.

- Recognize the idea that a bird doesn't have to look exactly like a bird
- Recognize that artists use of shapes
- Demonstrate the ability to make a picture with shapes
- Demonstrate the ability to see the shapes in animals



### Vocabulary

Shapes	Oval
Triangle	Rectangle
Circle	Square

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### Assessments

How will you know that the students have met the standards?

- Students will participate in answering Mass Audubon Educator prompted questions
- Students will demonstrate their understanding of seeing shapes in animals by making an animal with shapes
- Students will demonstrate their ability to work together in an art project

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### Summarizer

How will the Mass Audubon Educator close the lesson to see if students met the objectives?

- As each child finishes their art project the teacher or educator asks the student to describe their artwork



## Mass Audubon School Programs

At Mass Audubon we strive to create learning experiences that are enriching, innovative, meaningful, and engaging. All our school programs are aligned with Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. Our network of wildlife sanctuaries and nature centers located in urban, suburban, and rural communities around the state enable us to have strong relationships with local schools.

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## Our Education Foundations

- Place-based education is an educational philosophy that connects learning to what is local for an individual. We help build conservation communities, working with students and teachers in cities and towns to develop place-based environmental education that is linked directly to their home community.
  - Inquiry-based learning is focused on teamwork, being learner-centered, questioning ourselves and the world around us, providing a more focused, time-intensive exploration, promoting lifelong learning, communication, and learning as fun.
  - We are fully committed to creating a positive and supportive environment for all learners.
  - We strive to be culturally sensitive, recognizing and embracing cultural differences.
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## Differentiated Instruction

- We strive to create a positive learning environment that is inclusive, supportive to all learners, and sensitive to cultural diversity.
  - Outdoor classroom experiences are structured to meet the needs of the particular learners.
  - Students work in small groups using hands-on materials.
  - A variety of educational media are used, including colorful illustrations.
  - With advance notice, efforts will be made to accommodate all learning styles and physical needs.
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## Notes

- Nature exploration is dependent upon the weather and other conditions. A class might observe different wildlife than they expected to see. An outdoor lesson can sometimes provide unexpected, but enriching teachable moments on a natural history topic that was not planned.
- Mass Audubon nature centers each have a unique landscape and will customize programs to work best at their particular site.
- Our lessons can be adapted to incorporate a classroom teacher's needs.

