



Geese Migrating in Fall

Be a Musician in Fall

Music, Sound and Sound Effects

- Fall on a trail is often filled with sounds. Why might sounds change with the seasons? What fall sounds might you hear at dawn, during daylight, at dusk and during the night? Make a list of words describing the sounds you hear.

Animal Sounds

- What insect sounds can you hear? How are sounds made by different kinds of insects? Explore the way some people say you can estimate the approximate temperature by counting the number of chirps per minute a cricket makes.
- What birds do you hear? What birds might you hear calling at night?
- Listen for the sounds of migratory birds.
- Why might birds make different sounds at different times of the year. (Bird sounds in fall may include those of young as well as mature individuals.)
- Listen for sounds of some of these birds. (Blackbirds, Bluebirds, Blue jays, Bobolinks, Bobwhites, Brown Thrashers, Cardinals, Catbirds, Chickadees, Cowbirds, Crows, Mourning Doves, Wood Ducks, Mallard Ducks, Hooded Mergansers, Purple Finches, House Finches, Goldfinches, Flycatchers, Geese, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Hawks, Hummingbirds, Indigo Buntings, Killdeers,

Kingbirds, Kingfishers, Meadowlarks, Red-breasted and White-breasted Nuthatches, Phoebes, Red-eyed Vireos, Robins, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Chipping, English, Song, and Tree Sparrows, Starlings, and Turkeys, many kinds of Warblers, Cedar Waxwings, Downy, Hairy Pileated, Red-bellied and Red-headed Woodpeckers, Wood Pewees, House and Sedge Wrens and others) Use recordings to learn some of the bird songs and compare those with what you hear out of doors.

- Listen for the sounds your steps make on dry ground or wet ground as you walk. How does the sound change with the weather? What words can you use to describe the sounds?
- Identify sounds or rhythms you hear in fall and think of ways to imitate these sounds. Use rhythm instruments made of dried plant parts to imitate sounds you hear – rustling, shuffling, etc.
- What sounds made by mammals, people, or objects do you hear at different locations along the trail? Which sounds are made by animals trying to communicate warnings, joy, sadness or other ideas?

Sounds Sources that Have Changed

- What sounds could be heard on a fall walk today but not a century ago? What sounds might have been heard long ago but not today? (Sounds of certain animals, kinds of transportation, certain workers)
- What industrial sounds can you hear? What sounds related to activities of people in the area can you hear? (Traffic, loud speakers or public address systems, music broadcasts, school activities, sounds of people or machines at work).
- Some people take walks while wearing headphones. They cannot hear the sounds in nature while they cover their ears with headphones. Think about what they might miss on a trail walk.
- What is noise pollution? What sounds might annoy people who have differing needs and interests? What local laws exist to protect people from noise pollution?

Music Written by People to Express the Joy of Fall

- What songs or music describe fall activities?
- What kind of music might a composer make to go with pictures of what you see or experience on a trail in fall?
- Learn about Garth Neustadter. Garth is the grandson of Fred and Eleanore Duerr, people who once lived north of the Kuse Nature Preserve. Mrs. Duerr was a teacher in the Medford Public Schools. Garth wrote the music for a film

about John Muir, a famous naturalist. Garth received an Emmy award for his beautiful music.

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