Interactive Trail *Draft 4*

The trail begins at the Ela Sanctuary Information Station

Answer all questions in your notebook.

Exercise 9

Station 5

Ducks Unlimited! Or Maybe Not!

1. *Quietly* approach the **duck blind** just south of the trail. After you get to the duck blind sit silently for about 5 minutes. Your teacher will whisper to you when the time limit is up. Start to fill in the table that is part of step 2. *(4-2.11, 5-2.11)*

Sound	Animal making sound.	number of sounds per minute.	Direction to sound. (use compass)	Other observations.
#1				
#2				
#3				

2. On a table similar to the one shown above list the sounds you hear while you are sitting quietly waiting for the ducks to get used to you being in their territory.
3. How many different sounds did you hear?
4. How many water birds can you see from the blind?
5. Use the binoculars to view the water birds and describe them by color, placement and color of markings, length of the neck and determine if they are swimming or wading. *(4-7.04, 5-7.05)*
6. Use the Bird Identification Chart to name the water birds. *(5-1.08)*
7. Are there young birds present? If so, how many?
8. From your observations can you determine the probable number of eggs laid each spring? *(4-1.03, 5-1.06)*
9. Describe, in detail, what the birds are doing.
10. Describe the formation ducks and geese take when they are migrating. *(4-7.04, 5-7.05)*
11. Why do ducks migrate north during the summer and south during the winter?
12. Where do the ducks you have seen flying overhead go during the winter (or summer)?
13. Name three things that must be present for birds to live successfully in an area. *(4-3.14, 5-3.14)*
14. Are the three things that are necessary for birds to live successfully present at your school?
15. Are the three things that are necessary for birds to live successfully present at your home?
16. Name three things you could do to help the birds in our area.

Interactive Trail *Draft 4*

The trail begins at the Ela Sanctuary Information Station

Answer all questions in your notebook.

17. Have you ever eaten duck or duck soup? Did you like it? Did it taste like anything else you have eaten?
18. Have you ever had a down filled coat or sleeping bag? Where does the down come from? *(4-5.01, 4-5.02, 5-5.02, 5-5.03*
19. Name the tree types of feathers and describe the function of each.
20. See if you can leave the blind area quietly enough to not cause the ducks and other birds to fly away. Were you successful?
21. Follow the trail to the next interactive post or follow the instructions of your teacher and remember to look for signs of animal life along the way.
22. It might be fun for your class to take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count in February each year. You can get information of this activity by going to www.audubon.com on the web.