Project Outline for CCS

Monitoring Bird Population with CCS and the Student Farm

This year our class has been engaging with the UC Davis Center for Community and Citizen Science, in collaboration with the UC Davis Student Farm, to monitor our local bird population. Through our engagement with the Student Farm, we have learned how research is conducted, and how it can be used to support and inform farming and gardening practices. In collaboration with the Cornell Lab of Orinthology's eBird project, our class has been engaging in citizen science through real life data collection. The eBird project is the largest biodiversity monitoring project, with more than 700 million bird sightings reported globally last year.

Our project has four phases:

1. **Generating Questions**- making initial observations from our own spaces and seeing what we noticed and wondered

2. **Skill-building**- learning how to identify common birds, record notes in our scientist notebook, and connect to our other content skills like reading, writing and math.

3. **Data Collection**- seeing what birds are in our area, thinking about why they are migrating through or staying year round, and comparing those observations to birds being seen at the Student Farm.

Students have been learning skills necessary for accurate data collection and bird identification. Our focus while we were learning from home was to collect data, tracking which species are seen in different areas at different times. Now that we are back on campus, we will also begin monitoring the populations that visit our school garden as we work to identify changes that could be made to the campus to support or attract a diverse bird population.

4. Call to Action: