

Nature Near You

Journal Prompt:

What can you do to protect nature?

Animal of the Month: Long-billed dowitcher



Long-billed dowitchers are shorebirds in the sandpiper family that can be found in much of British Columbia during their annual migration from Alaska and Russia to Mexico. They have sensitive nerves at the end of their long bills that are used to detect and find food when poking around in the sand. Long-billed dowitchers also can use their night vision to forage for food at night when other birds are not able to.

At Home Activity: Walnut Shell Animals

What you need:

- Halved walnut shells
- Paints (white and coloured)
- Sealer
- Paintbrushes

How to:

1. Paint one coat of white onto all the shells and allow to dry so the other colours come out more vibrant
2. Paint the shells their primary colours (yellow for bees, red for lady beetle, brown for hedgehog - get creative!)
3. Paint on details like the face, eyes, ears, stripes or dots
4. Leave them to dry for a couple hours before presenting!

Other Resources:

Native Lands: A great resource to learn about which Indigenous lands we live and play on.
<https://native-land.ca>

Birds Canada: One of the top resources for all bird-related conservation news in Canada.
<https://www.birdscanada.org>