

WINDOWS SAFE FOR BIRDS

Grades 1 to grade 6 – Individual, small group

Birds cannot see glass. Placing visual markers on the outside of windows helps to break up the reflection of the surrounding sky, clouds, trees and plants, reducing the chance that a bird will fly into the window and become injured!

Make Your Own Window Decals

What you will need (per student):

- ▶ Small cup (egg carton sections work well)
- ▶ 2 tbsp white/school glue
- ▶ Dish soap
- ▶ Paintbrush
- ▶ Plastic sheet (paper protector, sandwich bag)
- ▶ Stencils (available at www.torontowildlifecentre.com/kids-go-wild/) or pictures from magazines
- ▶ Water-based or permanent marker

Directions

- ▶ Add about 2 tablespoons of glue to the cup
- ▶ Add 2-3 drops of dish soap
- ▶ Use paint brush to mix well
- ▶ Place stencil/picture underneath plastic surface
- ▶ Use paint brush to apply glue to the edges of images; don't leave holes or streaky spots
- ▶ Glue should not be too thick but solid (a second coat may be required)
- ▶ Dry for at least 2 hours (preferably overnight)
- ▶ When dry, decals should not be sticky at all
- ▶ Using markers, colour decals in whatever design you choose (don't colour too hard or you will rip the surface)
- ▶ Gently peel off decals and keep them flat in your hand so that they don't curl
- ▶ Place on the outside of your window
- ▶ The more decals the better to keep birds safe – covering as much open space on the window as possible is best!



How to video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ayeGJQfmPgQ>

TIP!

If clings are not sticking, dampen the window slightly before applying the decal.



*Activity adapted from Audobon New York