Birding by Ear ~ Describing Sounds

It can be a fun challenge to describe how something sounds. Sit quietly, and observe with all your senses. You may hear a variety of different bird calls. Try to describe a few of them, using colorful language. Be creative! Rather than just saying "TWEET", you could say that the bird "shouts angrily", "whispers", or "sounds like a flute".

If you are struggling to think of descriptive words, try making comparisons. A bird might croon like a love song, or honk as loud as a car horn.

Natural Literacy Sound Map

Mark an X where you different sounds as compared to where you are. On your sheet, describe the sound. Use as much description as possible!

In front of you





To your right

In back of you