

# Notes and Sketches



## FIELD-TRIP NOTEBOOK

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary  
1700 Hawk Mountain Rd.  
Kempton, PA 19529  
[www.hawkmountain.org](http://www.hawkmountain.org)

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## Field-Trip Notes

Date of visit: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the words that best describe the weather conditions on the day of your visit to Hawk Mountain.

sky cover: clear partly cloudy cloudy

precipitation: none drizzle heavy rain fog snow

wind direction: N NE E SE S SW W NW

wind speed: none slight breezy windy

1. Write a description of the forest habitat and terrain at Hawk Mountain. Include the names of some of the rocks, plants, and animals that you saw or might expect to see today.

2. What was your **favorite** thing about your field-trip today?

## The only bad bug is a litter bug!

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary has a pack-in/pack-out policy. This means there are no trash cans on the property and we encourage visitors to bring all of their trash back home with them.

Why do you think this is important? \_\_\_\_\_

Sometimes, litter can be a big problem at Hawk Mountain. When someone leaves litter behind, it will remain there for a long time unless picked up by someone else and disposed of properly.

### Decomposition Rates (Litter years) of Common Items:

Orange peel	6 months
Milk carton	5 years
Cigarette butt	12 years
Plastic bag	10 to 20 years
Aluminum can	80 to 100 years
Plastic soda bottle	450 years
Styrofoam	Never

If you have brought a lunch with you on your field trip, take a moment to list the potential litter items below, and how many years they would be around if you were to leave them behind.

Potential Litter Item

Litter years

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

If you find any litter during your field trip at Hawk Mountain, please - pick it up and congratulate yourself on helping make our Sanctuary a more beautiful place to visit!!

## Wildlife at Hawk Mountain

Hawk Mountain is more than just raptors. There are many species of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and insects that live here.

In the space below, list and describe any other animal sightings made during your field trip.

Animal	Location	Activity of Animal
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____

**Additional notes:**

## Hawk Mountain History

1. Before Hawk Mountain was a sanctuary, people went there to:

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Who founded Hawk Mountain Sanctuary and in what year?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Now, thousands of people visit Hawk Mountain each year. List reasons why people visit Hawk Mountain today:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Are birds of prey protected by law today? \_\_\_\_\_

Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Name two *previously* endangered raptors that can be seen migrating over Hawk Mountain annually.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Raptor Checklist

Place a checkmark next to the raptors you have seen today

- |       |                     |
|-------|---------------------|
| _____ | Red-tailed Hawk     |
| _____ | Broad-winged Hawk   |
| _____ | Red-shouldered Hawk |
| _____ | Rough-legged Hawk   |
| _____ | Golden Eagle        |
| _____ | Bald Eagle          |
| _____ | Osprey              |
| _____ | Northern Harrier    |
| _____ | Sharp-shinned Hawk  |
| _____ | Cooper's Hawk       |
| _____ | Northern Goshawk    |
| _____ | American Kestrel    |
| _____ | Merlin              |
| _____ | Peregrine Falcon    |
| _____ | Turkey Vulture      |
| _____ | Black Vulture       |

Use a field guide or what you have learned today to name the group of raptors (buteo, accipiter or falcon) represented by each silhouette.



Describe the general **shape** and **flight pattern** for each bird of prey below:

Type of raptor  
Accipiter

Shape/Flight

Buteo

Falcon

## Signs of the Seasons

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary is open to visitors year-round. It is great to be out-of-doors and enjoying Hawk Mountain throughout the year. Stop and take a look around you. Be quiet and listen. Take a deep breath and smell — if you weren't able look at a calendar, how would you know which season it is? What are some of the signs you can look for?

Use your senses to see, hear, and smell the world around you. In the space below, describe what each of your senses is telling you.

**Sight:**

**Hearing:**

**Smell:**

## Know your Trees

From our list of 10 trees choose one **broadleaf (deciduous)** tree and one **conifer (cone-bearing)** tree to identify and sketch.

In the spaces below include: 1) a sketch of the overall tree shape, and 2) a close-up sketch of the leaves or needles.

Name of broadleaf tree:

Sketch of tree:

Sketch of leaves:

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
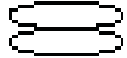
Name of conifer:

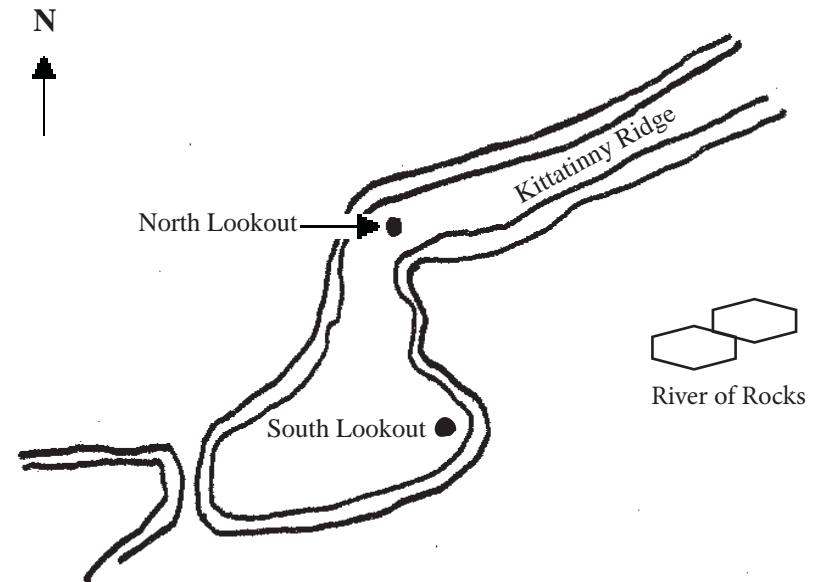
Sketch of tree:

Sketch of needles:

## Wind Currents

On the map below, do the following:

1. Complete the compass by labeling the east, south and west directions.
2. Then, draw arrows along the ridge  to indicate north-west winds.
3. Next, draw swirls  to indicate where most thermals form at Hawk Mountain.
4. Draw a dotted line - - - - - to indicate the usual flight path of hawks on days with north-west winds.



## Monitoring the Migration

Record the total number of raptors that have been counted at Hawk Mountain so far this fall: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the 10-year average? \_\_\_\_\_

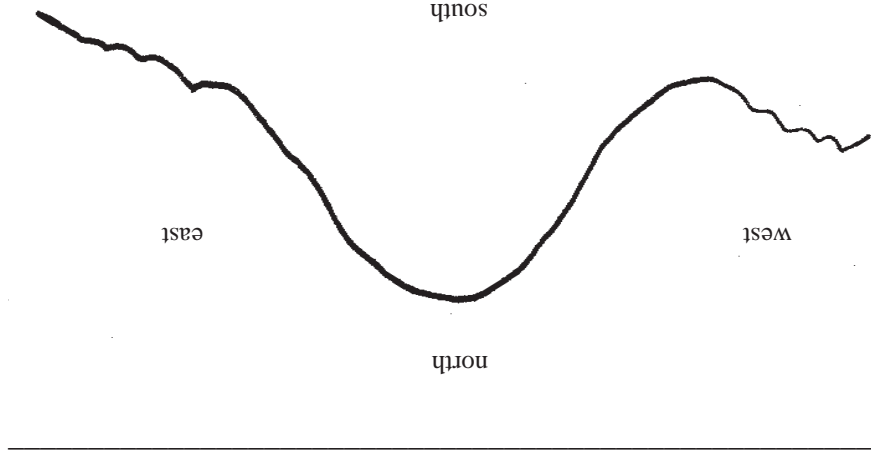
Name the species of raptor that is the most common migrant during the month of....

September: \_\_\_\_\_

October: \_\_\_\_\_

November: \_\_\_\_\_

On the diagram below, draw an arrow depicting an updraft created by wind coming from the west. How does the hawk stay aloft?



## Tree Check List

Try to find at least 10 species of trees. The most common are listed below. Check off each of the species that you find. In the space beside it, write one thing that you learned or observed about the tree.

Tree Species	Notes/Comments
Northern Red Oak	_____
White Oak	_____
Chestnut Oak	_____
American Chestnut	_____
Red Maple	_____
Witch Hazel	_____
Sassafras	_____
Eastern Hemlock	_____
Pitch Pine	_____
White Pine	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Which 2 kinds of trees make up the majority of the forest canopy?

What is the approximate age of the forest at Hawk Mountain? \_\_\_\_\_ years