

Information for Audubon Society of Kalamazoo Education Grant Application:

The Audubon Society of Kalamazoo will offer funding for class projects the 2026 – 2027 school year. The total granting amount available for 2026-2027 is \$2,000. We anticipate that the average grant will be \$250-\$500, but requests for more or less than that will be considered.

Project Guidelines and Criteria:

- Project should help students learn about and experience the natural world.
- Preference will be given to projects that include an outdoor experience.
- Preference will be given to projects related to birds.
- If projects are deemed of equal quality, ASK will select the one(s) that will impact the most students.

The primary focus is to benefit elementary and middle grade students in the following public school districts: Climax/Scotts, Comstock, Galesburg/Augusta, Gull Lake, Kalamazoo, Mattawan, Otsego, Parchment, Plainwell, Portage, Schoolcraft, and Vicksburg.

Entries from private or non-traditional schools will be considered based on the same criteria as those from public schools. Proof of 501(c)3 status is required for private / non-traditional classrooms.

Deadline for 2026-2027 project applications is November 20, 2026. Applications received by this deadline will receive preferred consideration. If qualified applications are received after this deadline, consideration will be given if there are funds remaining.

Complete form online, print, add signatures, and mail to: Audubon Society of Kalamazoo, P.O. Box 19333, Kalamazoo MI 49019.

Examples of Previously Approved Projects:

PROJECT	SCHOOL GRADE LEVEL(S) (# OF STUDENTS)	DESCRIPTION
I Can Help the Birds Too	3 (110)	Through a 3.5-hour interaction, students will receive a multidisciplinary introduction to understanding local bird species and learn about how birds are counted and identified through bird banding. Students will observe and participate in a mock banding experience. Students will use eBird.org to gather real world data from citizen scientists. Students will create a local map of Kalamazoo hotspots of various species, making special note of areas that are near their homes and schools.
Mattawan Middle School Conservation Club/ Portman Preserve	6-8 (35-40)	Field trip to Portman Preserve to work on eradicating autumn olive. Also hiking, conducting water quality tests, studying wildlife habitats, comparing plant species over three different seasons, and clearing brush on the lesser traveled trails.
Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) 2024	4 (280)	Go to Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery during the GBBC for 4 hours. Observe, count, and identify birds in ponds with binoculars and learn about migration.
Indiana Dunes National Park Explorations	4 (29)	To learn about the geography, plants, and animals of the National Parks. To learn about the specific features and living things found in the dunes.
Opportunities to Experience Wildlife Up Close	1 (30)	Trip to the Kalamazoo Nature Center plus add on programs: animals; birds of prey; scavenger hunt.
Build a Bird House/ Planting Trees, Shrubs	7-8 (24)	Broadcast milkweed seeds; build and install bluebird boxes; research, purchase, and plant shrubs and trees (serviceberry, nannyberry, spicebush, American elder). Plant swamp milkweed. Assign crews to water where needed.



APPLICATION FOR EDUCATION GRANT

School/Organization Applying for Grant Click or tap here to enter text.

School/Organization Address, City, Zip Click or tap here to enter text.

Name of Proposed Project Click or tap here to enter text.

Grade Level(s) and Number of Students Click or tap here to enter text.

Dates of Proposed Project Click or tap here to enter text.

Amount Applied for (Itemized) \$Click or tap here to enter text.

Total Cost of Project \$Click or tap here to enter text. How will any difference be funded
Click or tap here to enter text.

Contact Person Name and Phone Click or tap here to enter text.

Contact Person Email Address Click or tap here to enter text.

Mailing Address for Check (must be school) Click or tap here to enter text.

Description of Proposed Project Click or tap here to enter text.

Outcomes – Describe what you hope to accomplish as a result of this project.

Click or tap here to enter text.

How will you present these outcomes to ASK?Click or tap here to enter text.

Project Contact Signature and Date Click or tap here to enter text.

Official's Name (printed) and Signature Click or tap here to enter text.

(eg, principal)

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ASK Administration:

☐

Received _____

☐

Approved _____

☐

Unapproved _____

☐

Amount Approved _____

☐

Contacted _____