

Phenology Friday: The Meadowlark

As we continue to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 through social distancing we don't have to shut ourselves inside. Nature is still open! Spring has started and North Dakota is starting to look green. Please join the Intertribal Research and Resource Center and Land Grant for "Phenology Fridays." Phenology is the study of seasonal changes in plants and animals. Each Friday we share with you a plant or animal and then challenge you to head outside to search for and observe the plant or animal of the week.

Last Week: The Robin

This week: The Western Meadowlark



Observe:

How would you describe what the meadowlark looks like?

We notice they have bright yellow coloring and a marking on their neck that looks like a black necklace!

Did you know the Western Meadowlark is North Dakota's state bird?

Visit the website to learn what Western Meadowlarks look and sound like and then head out to find it! If it's hard to find, maybe try hearing the birds beautiful songs. I for one enjoy hearing their whistles, but keep your eyes peeled and ears open as the temperatures warm through this weekend.

<https://www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird/western-meadowlark>

Click the link to listen to their song:

<https://youtu.be/Sk4S2spFdcS>

Share with us what you find! Tag your pictures on Facebook with @unitedtribestech and add your observations in the comments or email:

1. Where did you observe or hear the bird?
2. How many did you find/hear?
3. What was the weather like when you took your observations?
4. What surprised you about this bird?
5. Is there anything culturally significant about this bird from your tribe?

Any questions or photos you want to share?
Email AIHEC Trival Vista, Amy Jackson (Navajo)
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