

Dear Roaring Fork Audubon,

The Audubon bird camp was a good experience for me because I made so many friends, and had so many new experiences. For example, seeing a whole family of moose (a mom, a dad, and a baby). I also saw lots of new species of birds and learned how to identify them. For Example, the [Broad-Tailed Hummingbird](#), the [Red Crossbill](#), and the [Black-Headed Grosbeak](#).

At the Audubon bird camp, I learned a lot about myself. Here are a few examples: I act more mature when I'm around older kids, and when I'm focused and "in the moment." When I'm around new friends that don't know me very well, I can be myself.

I also learned a lot about birds and nature, including every species of Woodpecker, knocks on the wood in a specific pattern, that's how they're identified. Another bird that I learned about is the ptarmigan, and they live at high altitudes, like 12,000 to 13,000 feet. One more bird that I learned about is the Red Crossbill, they use their crossed bill to open nuts and seeds.

I know that the Audubon bird camp helped me to love the outdoors even more than I already do. This is how I will protect nature as I get older, I will pick up trash, recycle, and continue to learn about nature. I will also share with my friends what I know and help them understand why it's essential to protect the environment.

I am very grateful for the scholarship because I had many great, new experiences, made many new friends and learned a ton about birds. For example, the Broad-tailed Hummingbird has a different hum than all other hummingbirds, and the Sandhill Crane can be the same size as a deer!

This is my advice for other kids who want to attend.

1. Wear sunscreen – camp is at a higher elevation and it's easier to get sunburned.
2. Bring sunglasses -- it can get bright.



3. Be yourself - it's easier to make friends
4. Take lots of pictures
5. Be open to trying new things
6. Have Fun in general.

Thanks again. Gratefully,

Juniper