**Bird Beak Population Game Rules**

Parts:

1 game board

7 beak size cards (1 of each of 7 colors)

~100 rectangles (~14 of each of 7 colors), colors match beak size cards

*Note: you only need 12 of each color to be able to play the game*

Worksheet packets for recording and explaining game outcomes

Getting ready to play:

- Each person gets a Beak Size card. Beak sizes range from 1 (small) to 7 (large). Beak size cards tell you what happens to your bird depending on the weather and seed size that year.

- If your group has fewer than 7 people in it, have some players take more than one Beak Size card until all 7 cards are distributed.

- Collect all small rectangles that match the color of your Beak Size card.

- Assign 1 person to be the “Weather Person”. The “Weather Person” tells the group the weather for that year, which determines who advances in the game. Give the “Weather Person” the Sheet of Weather Options.

Playing the game:

1) Each person puts 2 rectangles on the board above the number that matches their Beak Size card. All of these birds just migrated from another location. The migrants have variation in their beak sizes.

This is your starting population. Draw this on your worksheet.

2a) The “Weather Person” picks one of the weather scenarios from the Sheet of Weather Options and then announces the weather for Year 1.

2b) Alternatively, someone spins the “Weather Dial” to determine the weather that year.

3) Each person looks at their Beak Size card.

a) If you did not survive in this year’s weather, take 1 rectangle off the board

b) If you did survive, look at the number of babies you produced this year and add that number of rectangles to the board.

4) The “Weather Person” announces the weather for Year 2 or someone spins the “Weather Dial.”

5) Repeat Step 3.

This continues until the “Weather Person” has announced all years for that weather scenario or until you decide to stop spinning the “Weather Dial.”

**Sheet of Weather Options**

Weather Scenario 1

Year 1 - Very Dry

Year 2 - Very Dry

Year 3 - Very Dry

Weather Scenario 2

Year 1 - Moderate

Year 2 - Moderate

Year 3 - Moderate

Weather Scenario 3

Year 1 - Very Wet

Year 2 - Very Dry

Year 3 - Very Wet

Year 4 - Very Dry