



## Raptor Resource Project Lesson Plans

To find more plans, go to [www.raptorresource.education](http://www.raptorresource.education)

### Lesson Plan: Predict Mom's First Egg of The Season

<b>Grade/Level</b>	Elementary
<b>Time Allotment</b>	One to two class periods
<b>Content Area(s)</b>	Math

#### Objectives

Collect and analyze data to predict the day and time Mom might lay her first egg of the season.

#### Curricular Connections

What are the curricular connections for this lesson?

#### Instructional Materials

- Graphing source - bar graph, line plot graph
- Mom's egg laying history (data)

#### Resources

Mom's egg laying history can be found at <https://www.raptorresource.org/birdcams/decorah-eagles/>. Click the Nest Records tab below the video feed to view a calendar (this is my favorite - easy for the kids to use), or download a record set here: <https://bit.ly/38X8m3H>.

#### Background Knowledge

A basic outline of the eagles' lives will help students choose a likely egg-laying date and learn a little bit more about their lives. In general, Decorah Eagles Mom and DM2 (the second male Decorah Eagle) begin courtship in October, productive mating in late January or early February, and egg-laying in mid to late February. Hatching usually begins in late March to

early April, and the eaglets fledge in mid-to-late June. While young usually disperse between August and October, the adults remain on territory year-round.

### Opener

Have students watch a video of Mom laying the first egg of 2019 season. Start watching at around 3 minutes. At around 4 minutes, she gets up and we see the egg.

<https://youtu.be/fgJitZZB2aA>

### Procedure/Method/Activity

1. Small groups use the data to create a graph displaying the dates Mom has laid her first egg of each season.
2. Next, use the data to create a graph displaying the times she laid her first egg of each season.
3. Using the data, make a prediction of the date and time you think she will lay her first egg this season. Use evidence to justify your prediction.
4. Display predictions on a class graph.

### Assessment

I think Mom will lay her first egg of the 2020 season on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, because\_\_\_\_\_.

### Extension

- Use data to see if there is a pattern of days/times between the first and second egg being laid. Do the same for the second and third egg being laid.
- Use the data to see how many days it took the first egg to hatch each season.