



Buena Vista County Conservation's Grant Report for Iowa Ornithologist Union

Buena Vista County Conservation Board was honored to receive a 2026 Iowa Ornithologist union Grant. We received a total of \$500 which was used to purchase bird skull replicas of Iowa birds for our environmental education programming. The skull replicas arrived in late June and have already been used at five environmental education programs; bird themed day camp, Naturalist Lunchbox program, and three library programs.

The skull replicas have been a huge asset to our bird environmental education programming. The children have been so fascinated by them and even used them to help document different local bird features, such as eye location and beak shape. We have also used them to learn about what birds eat depending on what type of beak they have.

These skull replicas have been such a great learning tool for us and we will continue to use them well into the future. Thank you to Iowa Ornithologist Union for the funding to purchase these skull replicas.

Below are some pictures of our bird themed day camp held on July 14th, 2026. The children had a wonderful experience investigating them and loved how large the pelican skull was.





