

LET'S
START

Birding

ZEISS



NEW JERSEY
AUDUBON

Identifying Birds

①

HOW BIG IS THE BIRD?

Is it large like a hawk, medium like a crow, small like a sparrow, or tiny like a hummingbird?

②

WHAT IS ITS OVERALL SHAPE?

Is the bird's body round like a ball, long and oval-shaped, plump or skinny? What shape is its head; its bill; its tail?

③

WHAT PATTERNS AND COLORS DO YOU SEE?

Is the bird brightly colored or camouflaged? Does it have stripes, bars or dots? What color are its legs and bill?

④

WHAT SOUNDS IS THE BIRD MAKING?

Listen closely. Birds have distinct songs, calls and warning sounds.

⑤

WHERE IS THE BIRD?

Is the bird in the woods, in a lake, along a city street, in a field?

⑥

WHAT IS THE BIRD DOING?

Is the bird coming to a bird feeder or catching insects in the air? Is it walking on the lawn or diving underwater? Does it "bob" its tail?

TIPS FROM THE EXPERTS

GET OUTSIDE!

Get to know your neighborhood birds.

FIND, AIM AND FOCUS.

Practice using your binoculars.

PRACTICE GIVING GOOD DIRECTIONS TO A BIRD'S LOCATION.

Think of a tree or shrub as the face of a clock.

KEEP A BIRD SIGHTING JOURNAL.

Write notes and draw.

KEEP LEARNING.

Get to know your field guide and talk to other birders.

WEAR EARTH TONE COLORED CLOTHING.

Make sure not to scare the birds!



Turdus migratorius AMERICAN ROBIN

LENGTH: 10" | WINGSPAN: 17" | WEIGHT: 2.7 OZ

④

VOICE: Song a series of low whistled phrases, often followed by a pause. Call a clucking *pup*, *piik*, or *shheer*.

⑤

HABITAT: Any woodland habitat; common in suburban neighborhoods. Often found foraging on lawns and fields in flocks.

DIET: Winter diet primarily berries; in summer feeds mostly on earthworms.

⑥

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When bird watching:

MOVE SLOWLY.

TALK SOFTLY.

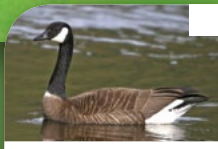
RESPECT A BIRD'S SPACE.

DON'T TRESPASS.

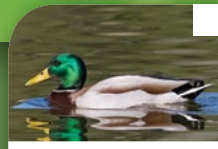
BE A GOOD ROLE MODEL FOR OTHERS.

HAVE FUN AND SHARE BIRDS WITH OTHERS.

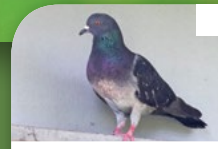
CHECKLIST OF 25 *Common birds*



Canada Goose



Mallard



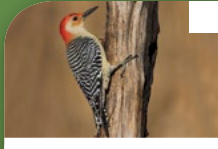
Rock Pigeon



Mourning Dove



Ruby-throated
Hummingbird



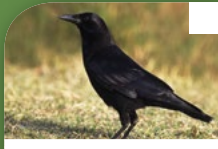
Red-bellied
Woodpecker



Downy
Woodpecker



Blue Jay



American Crow



Black-capped /
Carolina Chickadee



Tufted Titmouse



White-breasted
Nuthatch



House Wren



American Robin



Northern
Mockingbird



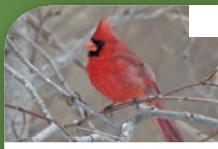
European Starling



Song Sparrow



White-throated
Sparrow



Northern Cardinal



Red-winged
Blackbird



Common Grackle



Brown-headed
Cowbird



House Finch



American
Goldfinch



House Sparrow

*Can you spot
all 25?*

**KEEP TRACK OF THE BIRDS
YOU SEE BY CHECKING THE
BOX IN THE TOP RIGHT
CORNER OF EACH PICTURE.**

BIRD PHOTOS BY KEVIN T. KARLSON

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