

Bird Worksheet

Directions: In order to complete this worksheet, you will need to spend some time outdoors.

1. Many birds can be found in your neighborhood and you can attract them to your yard by putting out a bird feeder and/or bird bath. If you don't have a bird feeder, you can make your own with some recycled materials, a citrus shell, or a pinecone. Fill the feeder with store-bought wild bird seed, plain sunflower seeds, peanuts, grapes, or soaked raisins and then hang it in a tree by a window. After you hang it, wait a day, and then start watching it from a window. What birds do you see?
2. Identifying birds can be difficult. Test your ID skills by matching the bird with its common name below:

American goldfinch

Black capped chickadee

Blue jay

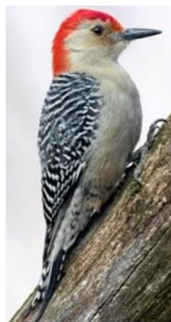
Downy woodpecker

Red bellied woodpecker

House finch

House sparrow

Cardinal



3. Look up some of the calls of the birds from above and try to make a song, rhyme, or phrase to help you remember which bird the call belongs to. Head outside and listen very carefully. Can you hear any bird calls? What do they sound like? Have you heard that sound before? Look around to see if you can find the bird that is calling. Can you identify it?

4. Look for a bird outside and try to draw it. What color is it? Does it have any distinctive designs or structures like wing bars or a crest? Look closely at its beak. Is it thin, pointed, or curved?

5. One way that scientists learn about nature is by taking data (information) and comparing that data over time. Challenge yourself to be a bird scientist, or ornithologist, by watching your bird feeder and filling in the data chart below over the next few days.

Date/Time	Bird identifier or name	Time spent @ feeder	Behavioral observations	Interactions with other animals/plants

6. After a few days or weeks, look at your data and think about what you observed. Do you notice anything interesting? Next, come up with your own bird study. First, think of a question that you can answer by observing your bird feeder or backyard, then think of a hypothesis (educated guess) and come up with a plan for collecting data. Once you have your plan, test it out!