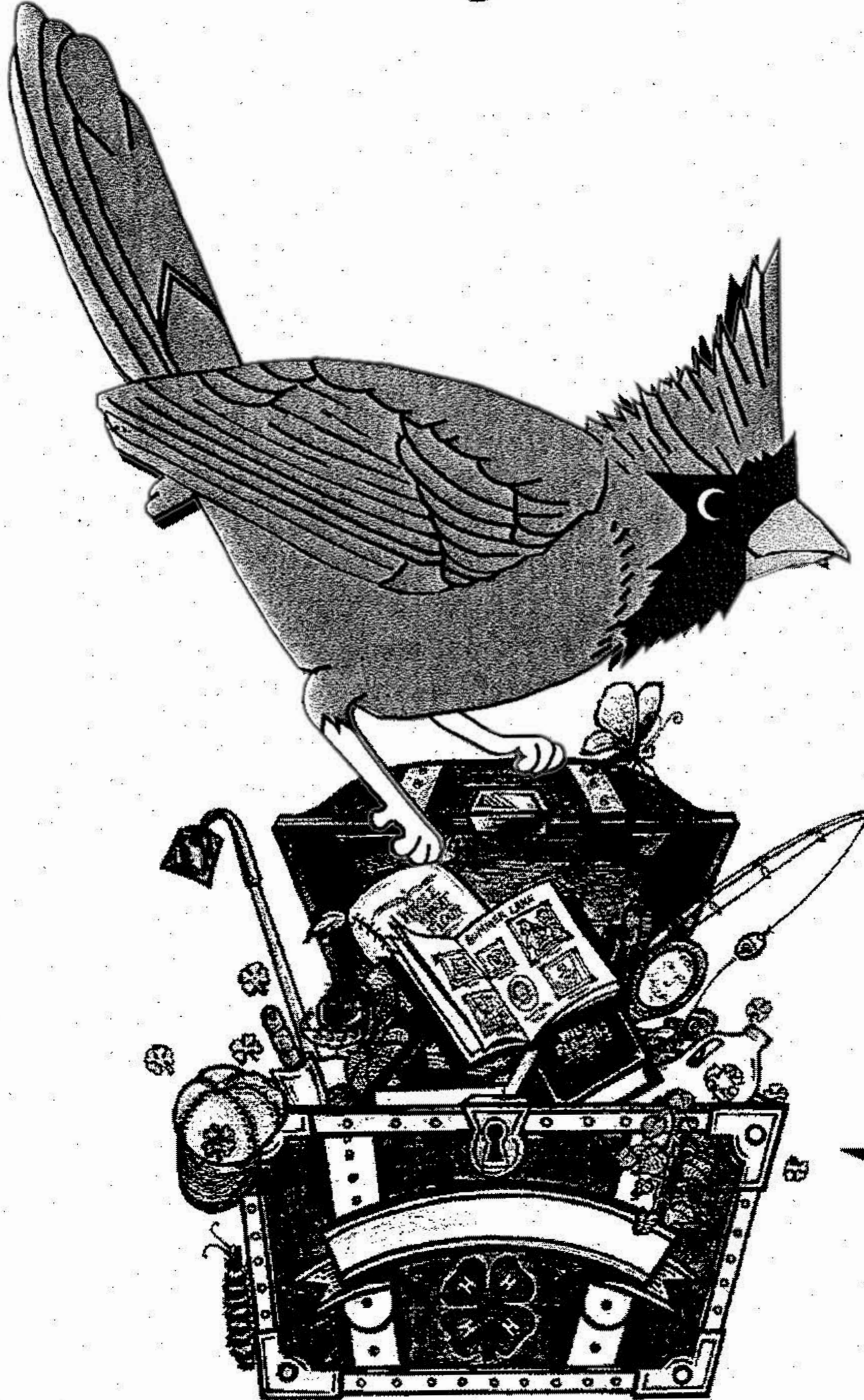
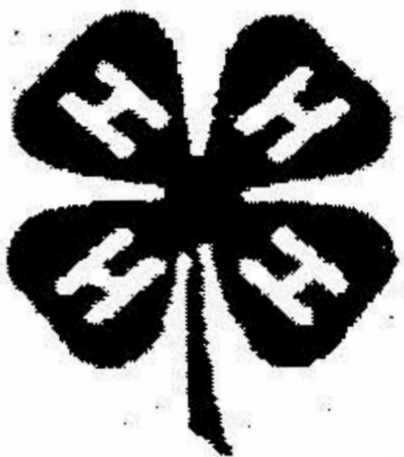


Birds

Mini-Project Book

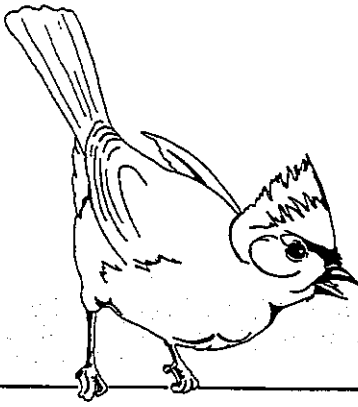


Step 2



K-3RD GRADE PROGRAM

North Carolina Cooperative Extension
North Carolina A&T State University
North Carolina State University



In this Mini Project you will learn:

- The body parts of birds
- How birds choose places to live
- The basic survival needs of birds
- How and where to watch for birds
- Some common bird names

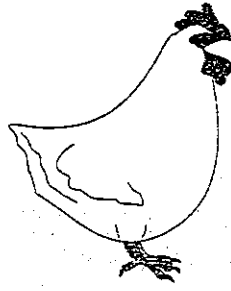


A Note for Parents or Guardians

This booklet is designed for 4-H'ers to use, along with a parent or guardian, in an experiential learning activity focused on birds. 4-H'ers will develop their motor skills and their capacities for visual discrimination. They will also gain exposure to such lifeskills as interpersonal communications, problem-solving, decision-making, planning and "learning to learn."

An accompanying *Bird Activity Guide* provides innovative group activities, which supplement the information in this booklet and offer additional learning experiences.

Fun Things To Do



Directions:

These are the activities you and your child can do in this bird project book. Discuss each activity with your child and make a check by the ones you decide to do together.

- Color birds
- Unscramble letters to discover words
- Learn the different body parts of a bird
- List places where birds may be seen
- Solve a maze to help a young bird find its way home
- Start a "life list" of birds seen
- Play *Bird Scrabble*
- Decode secret words to discover facts about birds
- Search for a woodpecker in a dense forest habitat
- Help a family of swans find their way home
- Learn ten "field marks" to aid in bird identification

It is fun to study birds. Birds make our world a more interesting and beautiful place to live.

List eight places where you will see birds. List eight places where you will *not* see birds.

1. _____

1. _____

2. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. _____

4. _____

4. _____

5. _____

5. _____

6. _____

6. _____

7. _____

7. _____

8. _____

8. _____

Which place do you like the most?

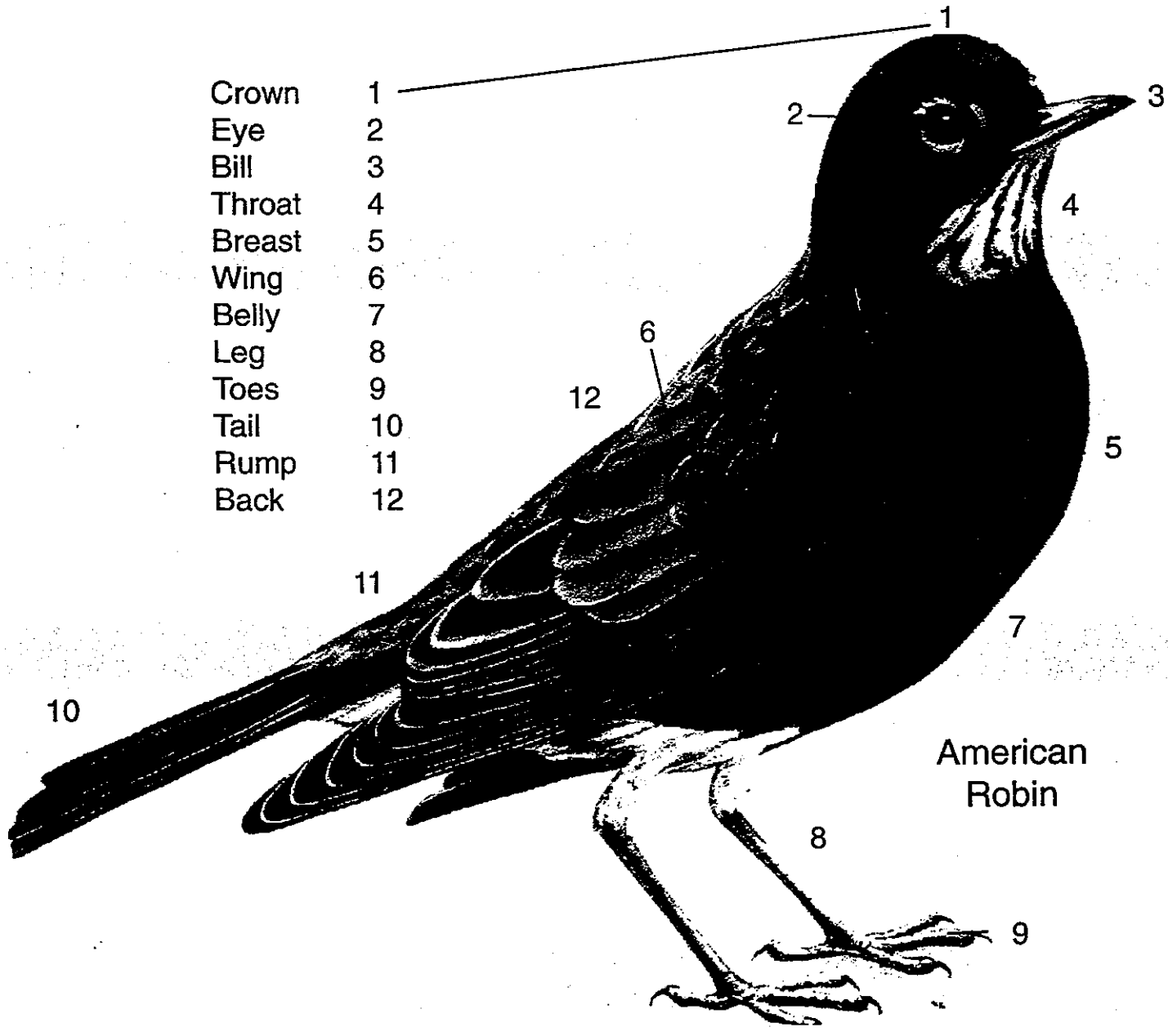
Which place do you like the least?



People watch birds for many reasons. Scientists who study birds are called ornithologists (**or-nu-thol-u-gists**). To learn about birds, it's good to start by learning their body parts. All birds have two legs, two eyes, two wings, a bill, and thousands of feathers.

Draw lines to match the name for the robin's body parts to the drawing.

- Crown 1
- Eye 2
- Bill 3
- Throat 4
- Breast 5
- Wing 6
- Belly 7
- Leg 8
- Toes 9
- Tail 10
- Rump 11
- Back 12



American Robin

If you go to a forest to look for birds, the kinds of birds you see will be different than those you would see near a swamp. The kinds of birds you find in a dry area without trees will be different than what you find at either a forest or a swamp.

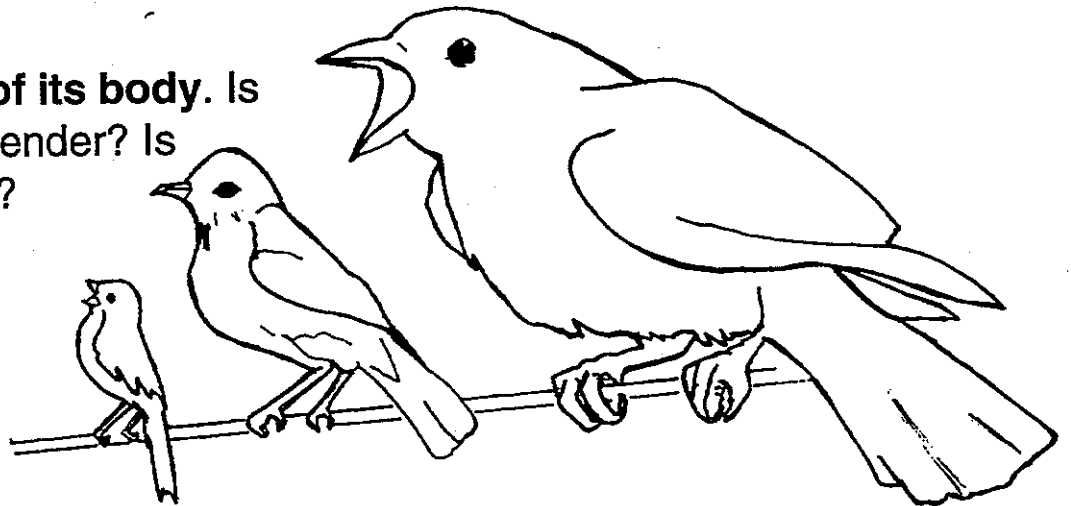


Birdwatching is fun all year-round. When you visit a forest or lake in the winter, you will find different birds than you found in the summer.

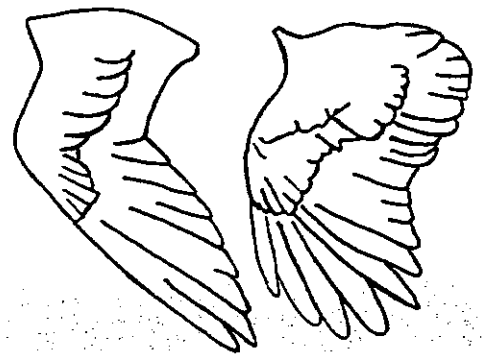
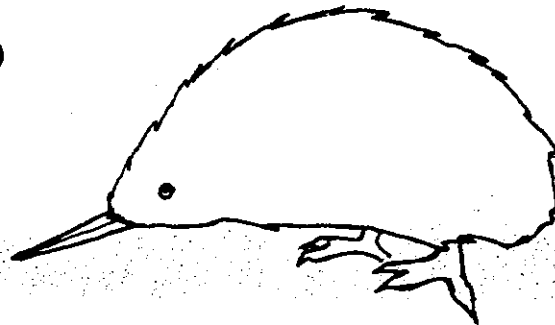
When you see a bird and don't know what kind it is, there are some clues you can look for which will help you find the bird in books. These clues are called "field marks."

When you see an unknown bird, look at:

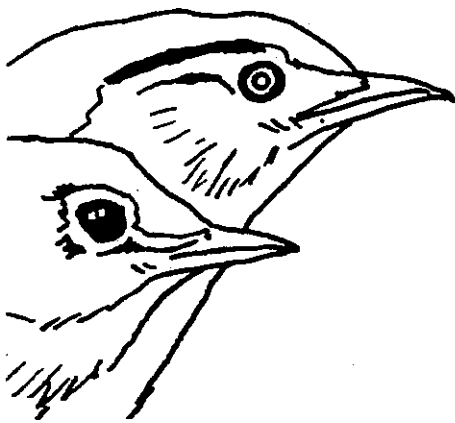
- **The shape and size of its body.** Is the bird chunky and slender? Is the bird small or large?



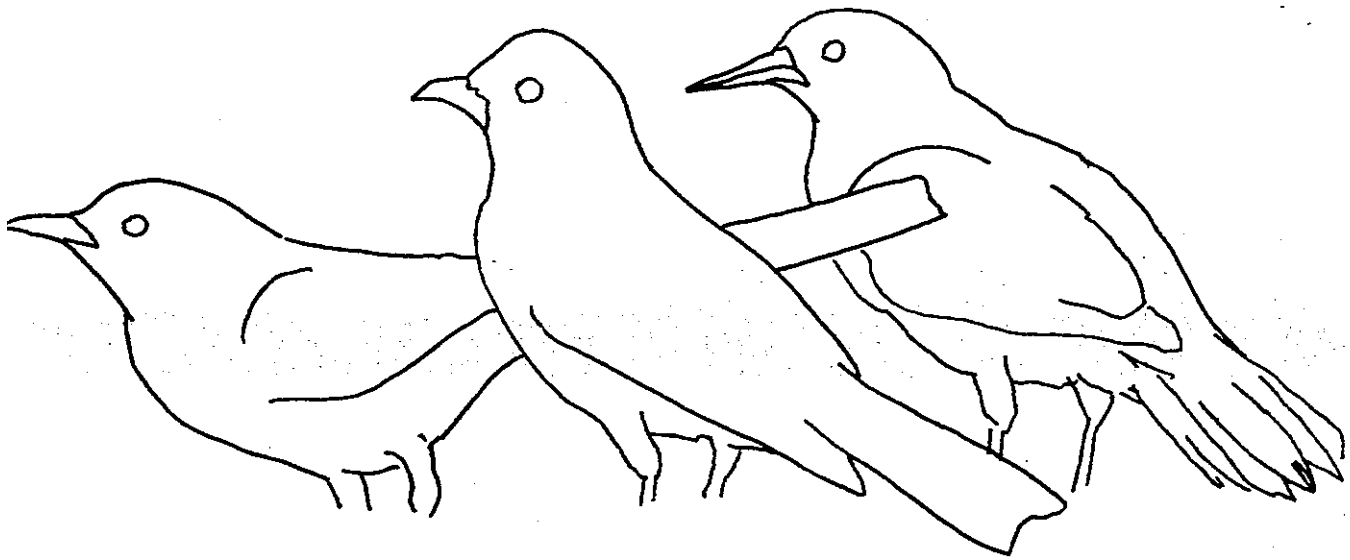
- **The wings.** Are the wings pointed or round? Are the wings plain or can you see "wingbars?"



- **The legs.** Are the legs long or short?



- **The eyes and crown.** Does the bird have a ring around the eye or a stripe over its eyes? Does the crown have stripes or a patch?



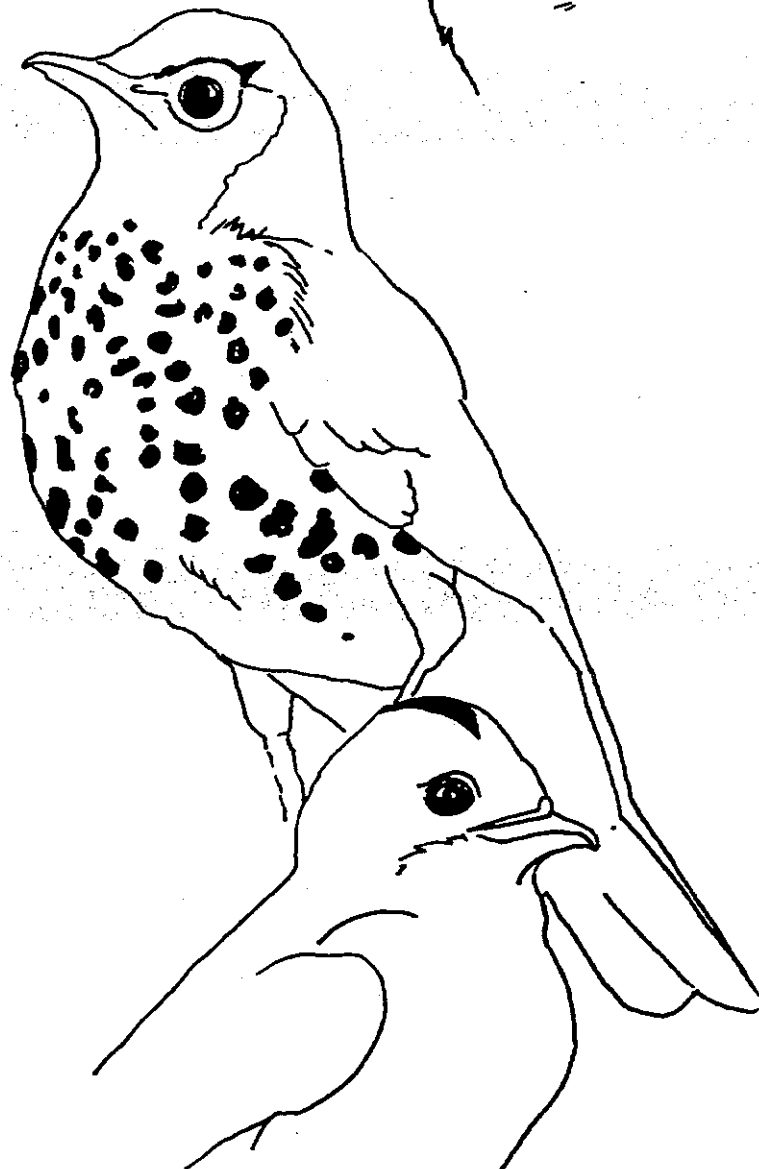
- **The tail.** Is its tail forked, notched, square-tipped, round-tipped, or pointed?

- **The bill.** Is the bill long, short, pointed, thick or thin?

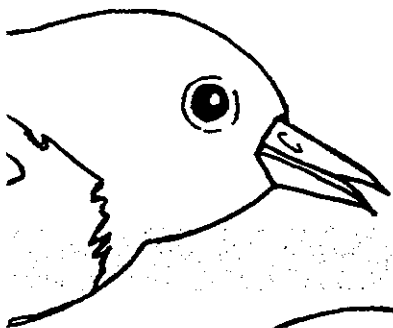


- **The breast.** Is the breast plain, spotted, streaked or striped?

- **The rump.** Does the bird have a patch of light color on its rump?



- **The crest.** Does the bird have a crest on its head?



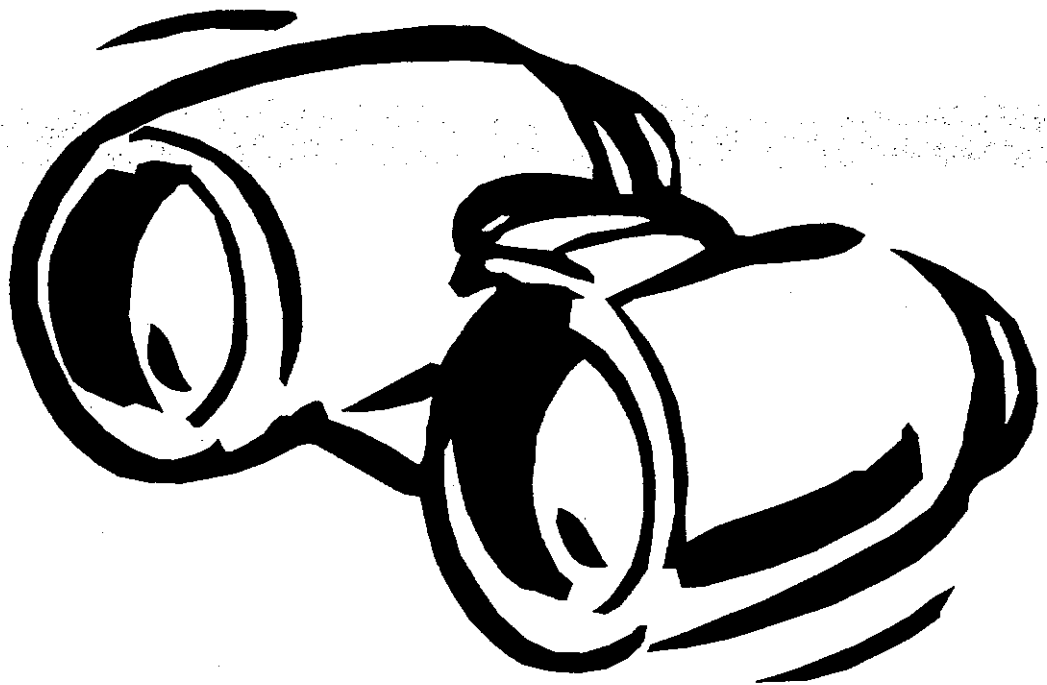
Bird watching is more fun if you have a book with pictures of birds and their names. These books are called **field guides**. If you see a bird and don't know what kind it is, you can look for a picture of it in your field guide.

When you find the picture, you will also find the name for the bird.

You can find field guides for bird watching at libraries and book stores.



Binoculars (**bu-nok-you-lars**) are another good tool for bird watching.



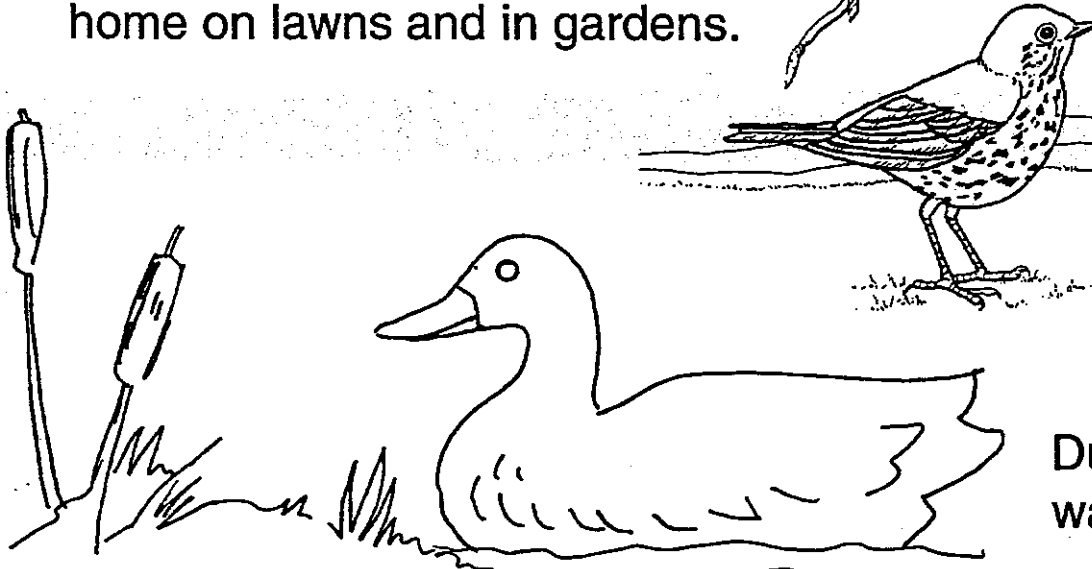
Where birds like to live is called habitat (**ha-bu-tat**). All birds do not make their home in the same habitat.



Pigeons make their homes on city buildings and bridges.



Robins make themselves at home on lawns and in gardens.



Ducks live near water.

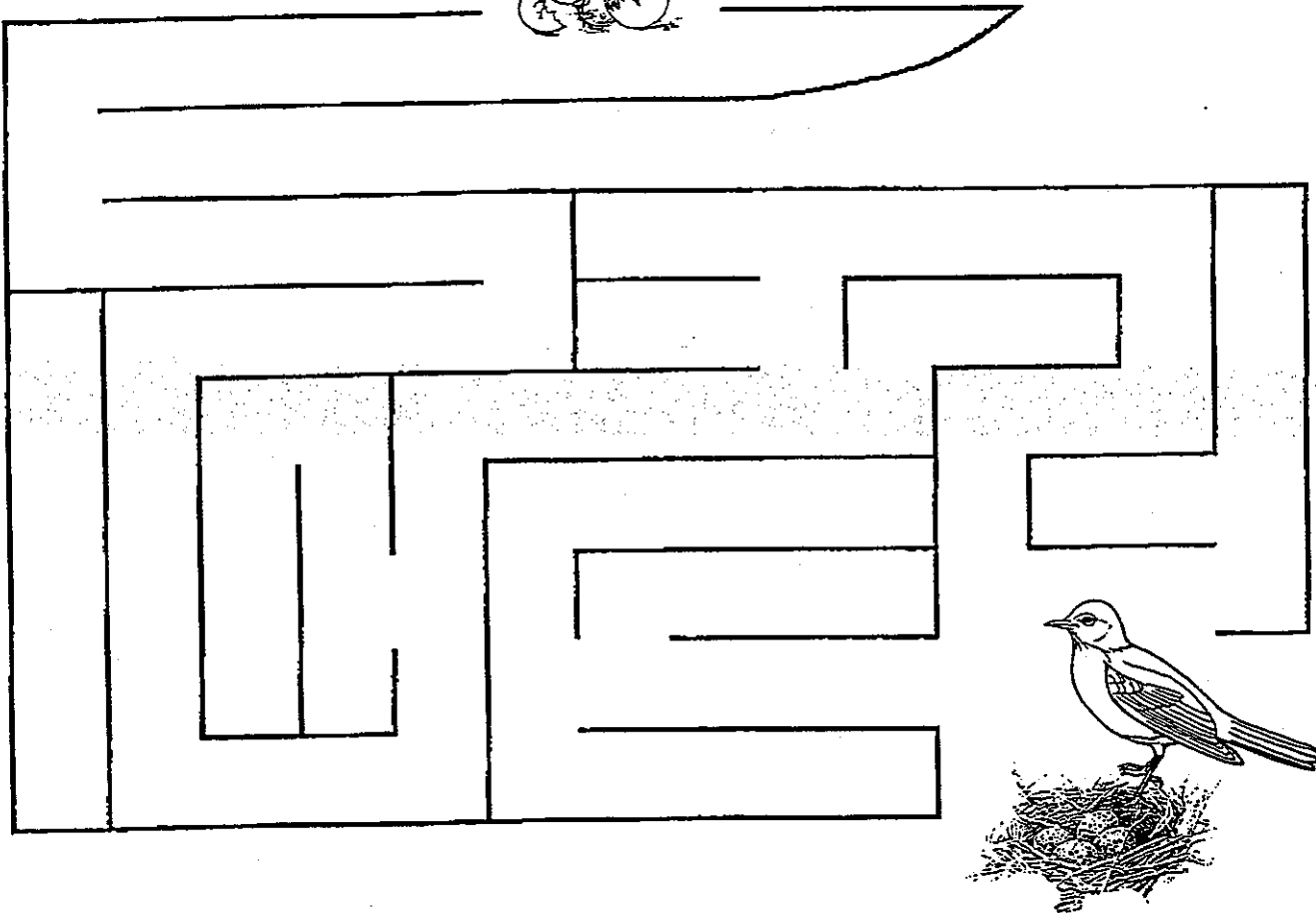
Birds need four things to survive:

- 1) Food for eating
- 2) Water for bathing and drinking
- 3) Cover for protection from enemies
- 4) Shelter for raising their young

A mixture of trees, shrubs, vines, other plants, and water can give birds the variety of habitat needed for all seasons—places for them to feed, drink, court, nest, rest, or hide.

Little Robin is hungry, cold, scared, and thirsty. Help Little Robin find its mother.

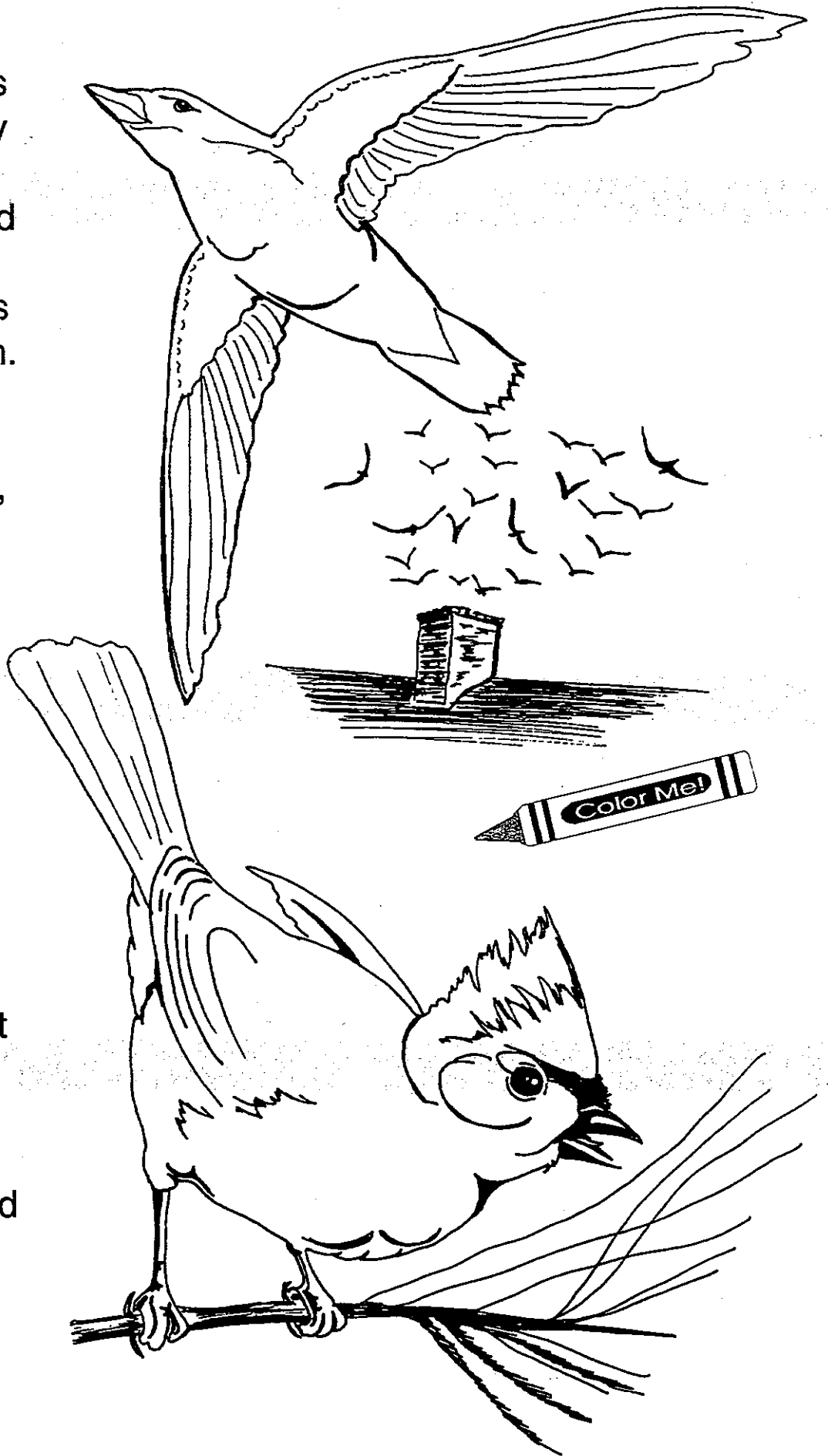
Draw a line that shows how Little Robin must go home.



One of the best times to see birds is early morning. They are busy then, looking for food, and singing. You can also see many birds in the late afternoon.

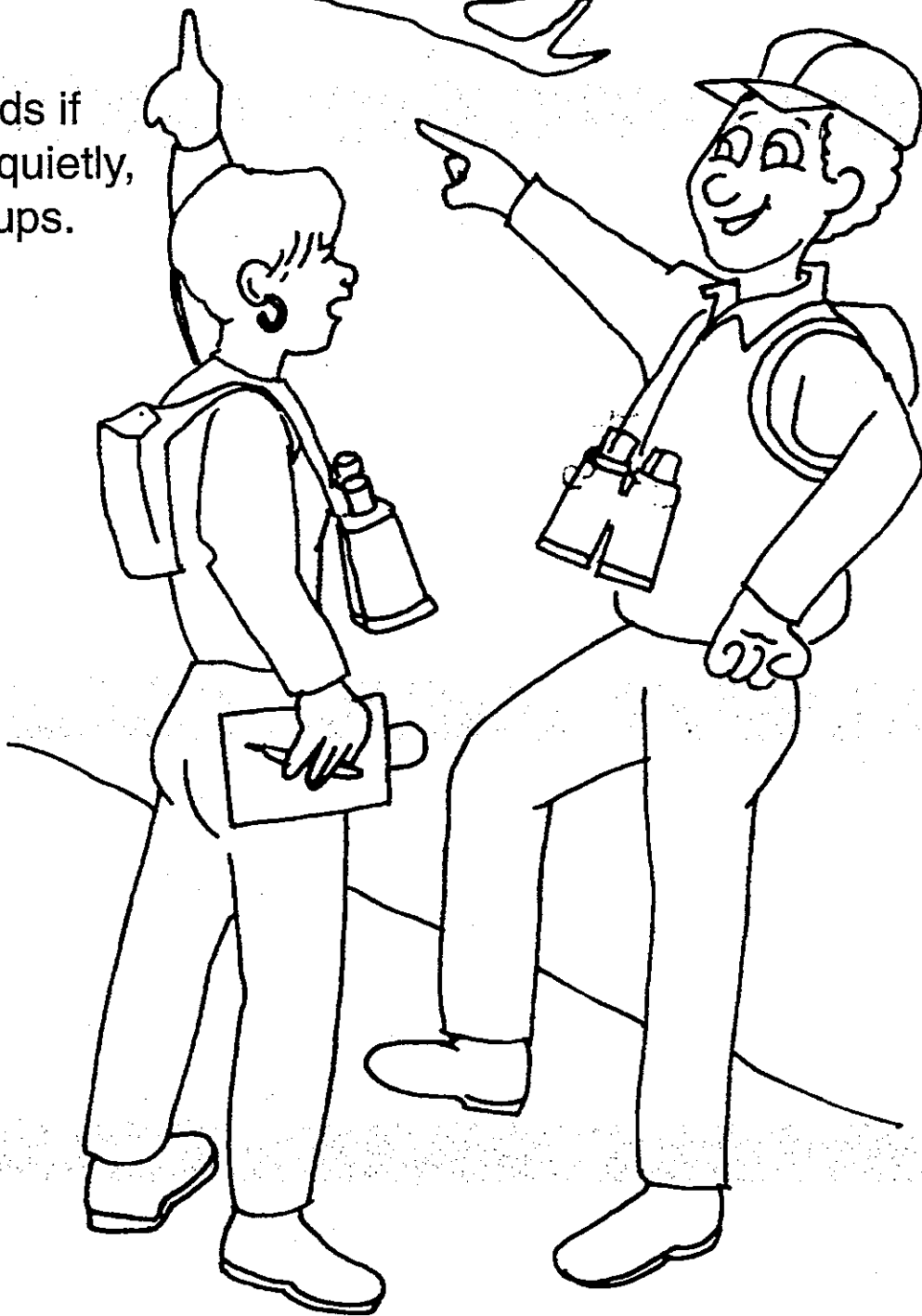
You can bird watch from your backyard, from your window, while walking to school—or almost anywhere. Look for birds in trees, shrubs, gardens, fields, in your yard, and on telephone wires.

Different kinds of birds live in different places. So, visit ponds and lakes, mountains and beaches, woods and fields. You will see many new kinds of birds.





You will see more birds if you walk slowly and quietly, alone or in small groups.



Once you spot and identify a bird, write down the date and place you saw it. Keep adding to this record and your list of birds will grow, just like you.

Bird Scrabble

Rearrange the letters below to discover the names of birds found on the next page.

edckacihe _____

uojnc _____

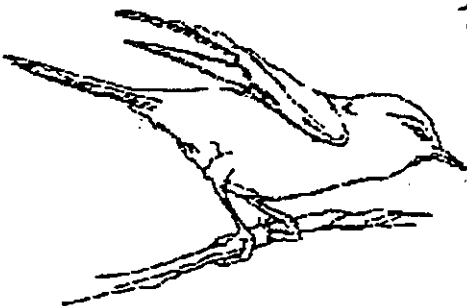
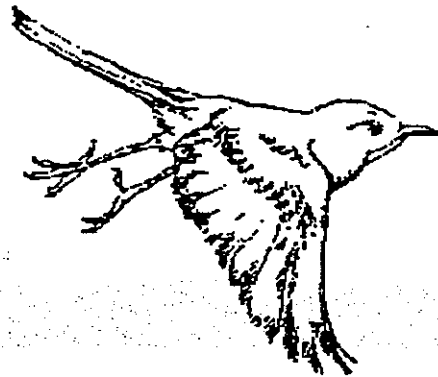
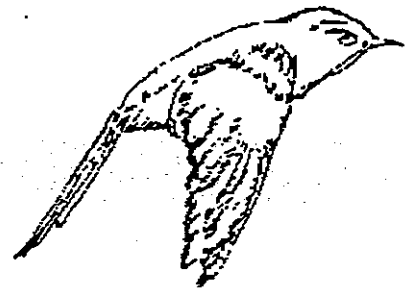
iracland _____

nhauthtc _____

rnheo _____

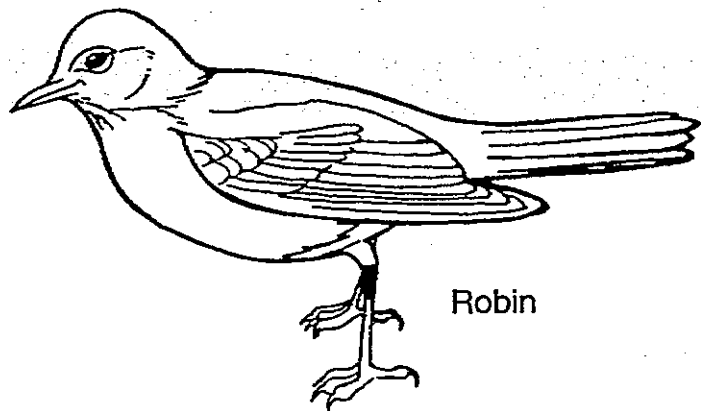
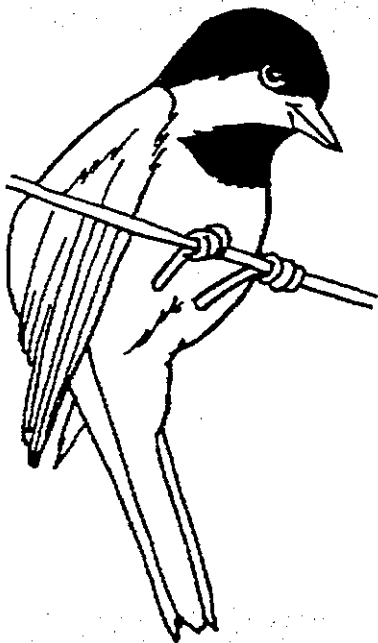
iobrn _____

lebu yja _____



Put a check mark by the birds you have seen. Use a bird identification book to see how to color the parts of the bird.

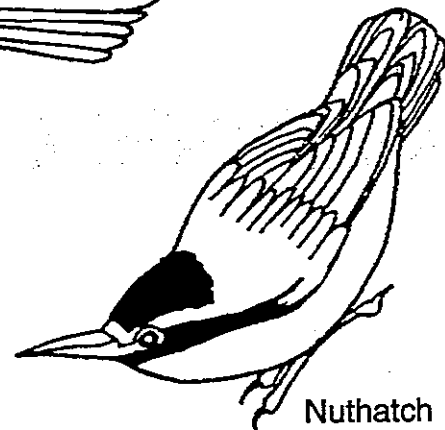
Chickadee



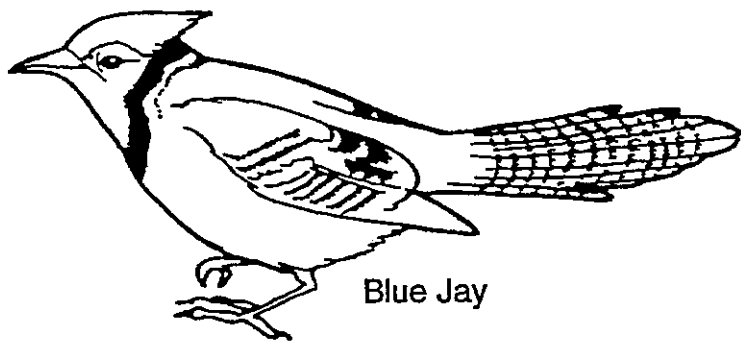
Robin



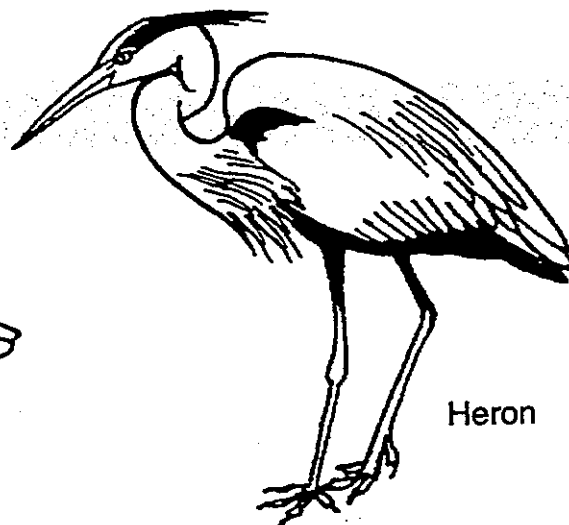
Cardinal



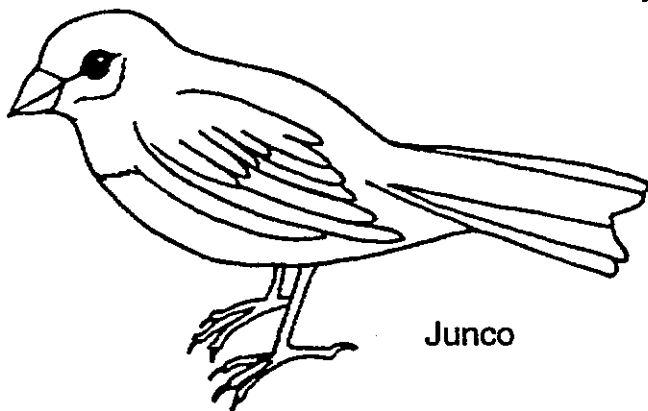
Nuthatch



Blue Jay



Heron



Junco

Use the code to discover some interesting facts about birds. Write the correct letter above each symbol.

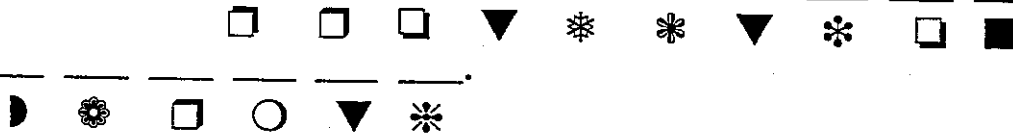
⊗ = a	* = g	○ = m	▲ = s	l = y
⊙ = b	* = h	■ = n	▼ = t	l = z
* = c	* = i	□ = o	◆ = u	
* = d	* = j	□ = p	◇ = v	
* = e	* = k	□ = q	◐ = w	
* = f	● = l	□ = r	l = x	

1. Birds have three different kinds of _____

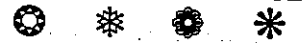


2. Feathers are for _____ and then

 for _____



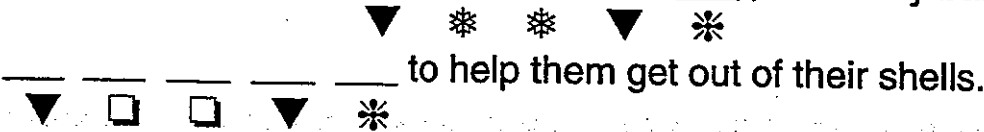
3. The most important feature to notice about a bird, perhaps, is its _____ or bill.



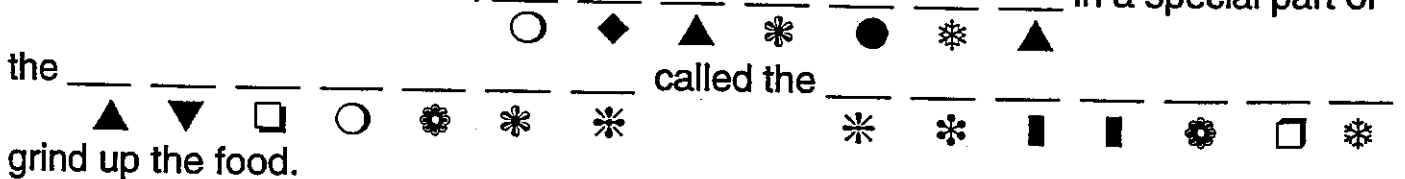
4. This feature and the bird's _____ will give you a clue about what the
 bird _____



5. Birds do not have _____, but many baby chicks use a special egg
 _____ to help them get out of their shells.



6. Once a bird finishes its food, _____ in a special part of
 the _____ called the _____
 _____ grind up the food.



7. Sometimes, birds will store food in a _____ called the
 _____ to be eaten later.



Use the code to discover some interesting facts about birds. Write the correct letter above each symbol.

⊗ = a	* = g	○ = m	▲ = s	l = y
⊙ = b	* = h	■ = n	▼ = t	l = z
* = c	* = i	□ = o	◆ = u	
* = d	* = j	□ = p	◇ = v	
* = e	* = k	□ = q	◐ = w	
* = f	● = l	□ = r	l = x	

8. Not all birds build _____.

■ * ▲ ▼ ▲

9. A _____ eagle's nest can weigh as much as two _____.

⊗ ⊙ ● * ▼ □ ■ ▲

10. Some birds like to take _____ in _____.

⊗ ⊙ ▼ * ▲ * * □ ▼

11. Birds _____ come in all shapes and sizes.

▼ □ ■ * ◆ * ▲

12. Birds do not _____ to cool off, they _____, take a _____ or sit in the _____.

▲ ◐ * ⊙ ▼ □ ⊙ ■ ▼

⊗ ⊙ ▼ * ▲ * ⊙ * * *

13. A bird's home is called its _____.

* ⊙ ⊗ * ▼ ⊙ ▼

14. Birds can _____ thousands of _____.

* ● l ○ * ● * ▲

15. Birds are _____ because they are descended from some kind of reptilian ancestor.

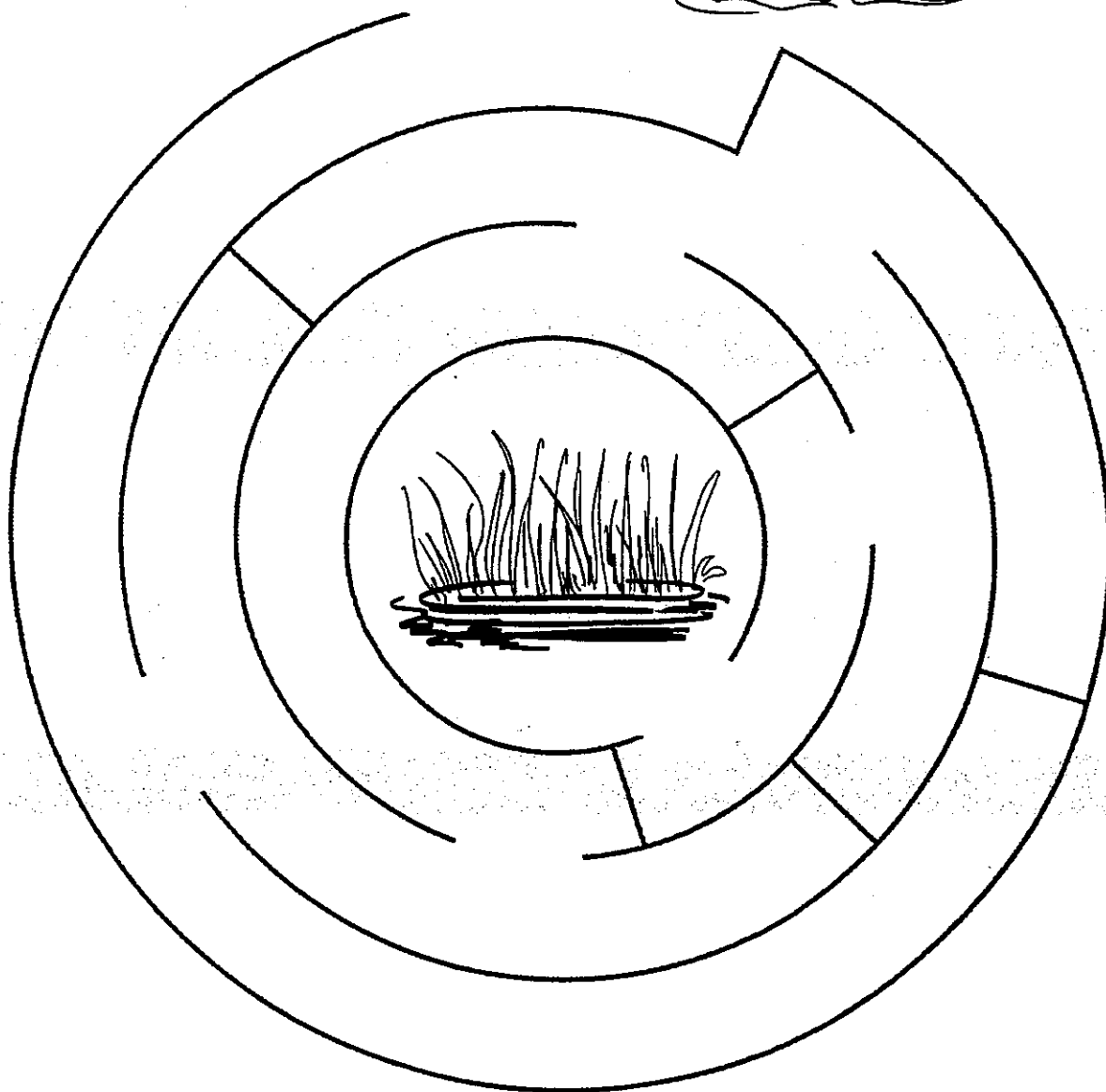
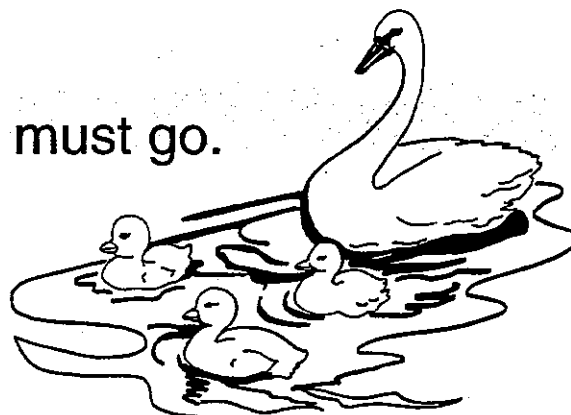
* * ■ □ ▲ ⊙ ◆ □ ▲

Can you spot the woodpecker in this forestland habitat?



Help mother swan and her chicks find their way home to the reeds in the water.

Draw a line that shows how they must go.



Fun Things I Did

Directions: These are the activities you and your child could have done in this project book. Discuss each activity with your child and make a check by the ones that you did together.

- Colored pictures of birds
- Unscrambled letters to discover words
- Learned the different body parts of a bird
- Listed places where birds may be seen
- Solved a maze to help a young bird find its way home
- Started a "life list" of birds seen
- Played *Bird Scrabble*
- Decoded secret words to discover facts about birds
- Searched for a woodpecker in a dense forest habitat
- Helped a family of swans find their way home
- Learned ten "field marks" to aid bird identification

4-H'er _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Parent/Child Fun Things To Do

Go bird watching beside a river or stream, in a field or forest or in a park. Start a "Life List" of birds you see and identify.

Attend a meeting of your local Audubon Society, or look for other groups and events which are about birds, and attend a meeting or program.

Attracting birds to your backyard can be a great way to see more birds. Check your local library or County Extension Office for resource materials.

Plan and take a trip to the coast, mountains, or other natural areas different from your neighborhood to see other kinds of birds.

Learn to recognize birds in your community by their songs or calls.

Build a bird nest from twigs, sticks, grass or other common household items.

Prepare and use homemade bird feeders out of different recyclable products (milk cartons, pine cones, etc.).

Visit a museum or zoo that features a bird exhibit or bird attracting areas so that examples of birds can be viewed up close.

Once all of the tree leaves have disappeared, go on a bird nest hunt with your child and a friend.

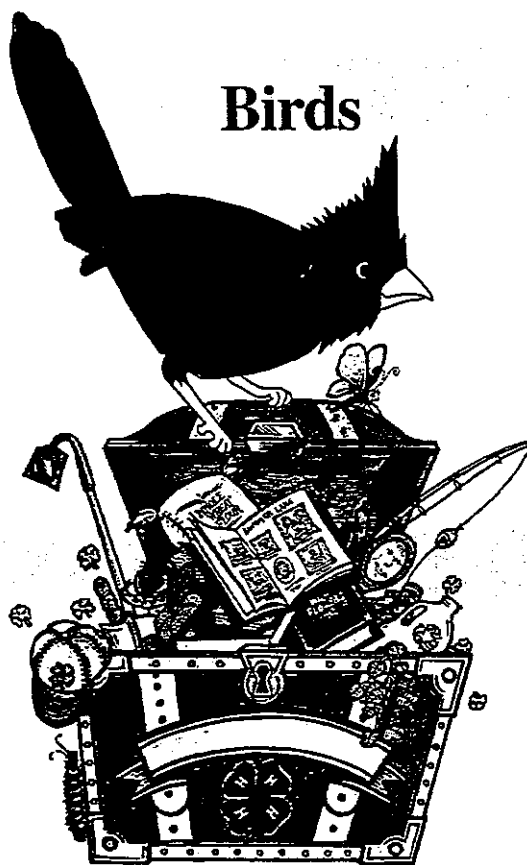
Search through old magazines and find pictures of birds to make a collage of birds with similar physical features.

Recycle your Christmas tree in a corner of your yard for birds to find shelter from cold weather.

North Carolina Cooperative Extension Program

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Birds

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