

Tail

Uppertail
Coverts

Rump

Back

Mape

Head

Crown

Nostril

Upper
Beak

Lower Beak

Throat

Breast

Wing

Side

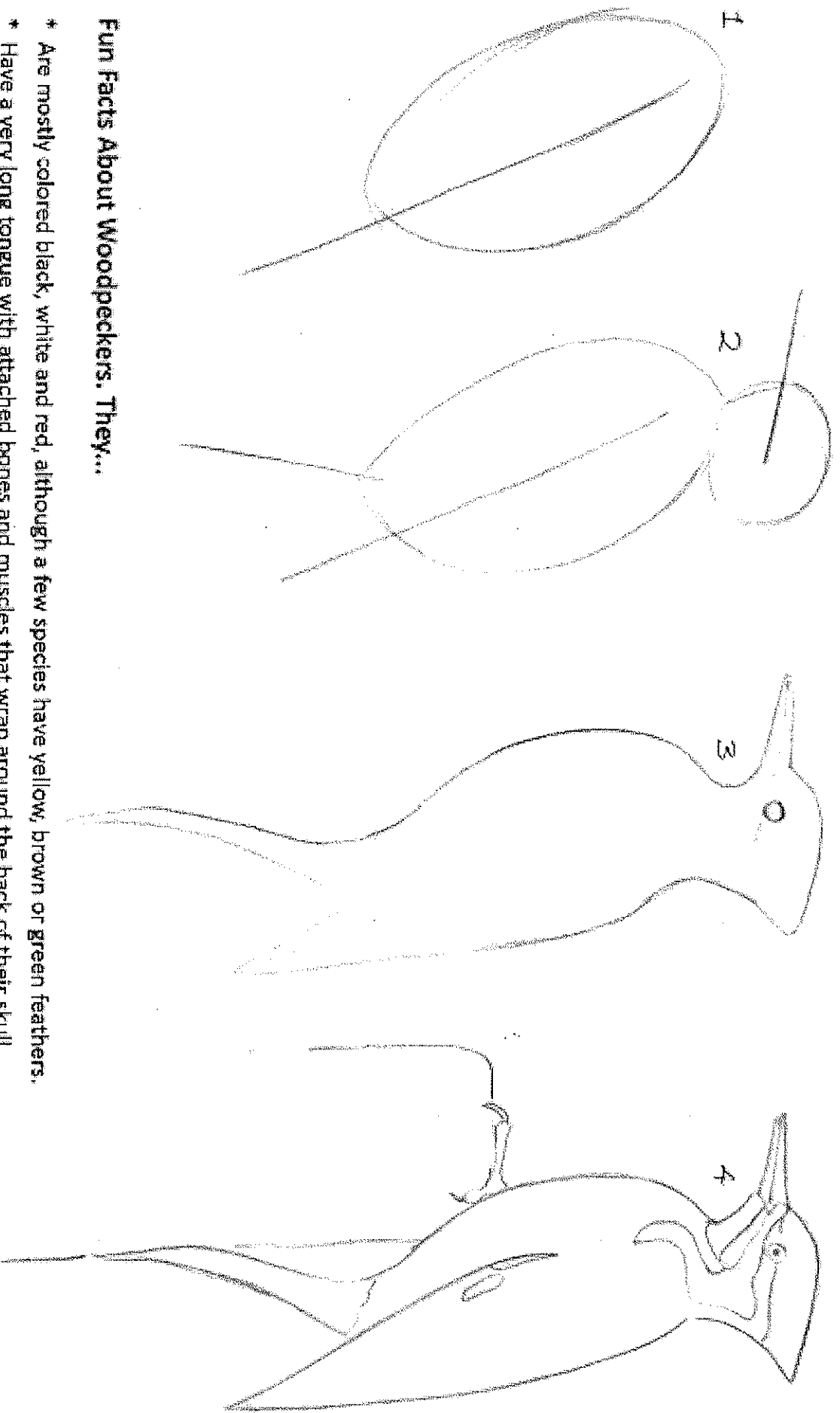
Belly

Thigh

Leg

Undertail
Coverts

How to Draw a Woodpecker



Fun Facts About Woodpeckers. They...

- * Are mostly colored black, white and red, although a few species have yellow, brown or green feathers.
- * Have a very long tongue with attached bones and muscles that wrap around the back of their skull.
- * Communicate by voice and by drumming on wood, which echoes loudly through the forest.
- * Eat bugs, beetles, ants, fruits and sap that they search for in the forest and by pecking into the bark of trees.
- * Don't get headaches from drumming and pecking because of their specially adapted skull.
- * Have strong feet and tails that help them grip horizontally onto the sides of trees.

A snag-dependent wildlife community

Every tree eventually dies, and its ecological value continues long after the last leaf falls. Weakened trees attract beetles that lay their eggs in the bark; their larvae bore into the wood or behind the bark and help the wood decay. Woodpeckers chop into the tree to feed on the beetle larvae, and they excavate in the rotting wood to create nest and roost cavities. These cavities later become homes for secondary cavity dwellers, such as bats, squirrels, and various small birds. Woodpeckers also transport fungal spores to dead and dying trees. These fungi help break down the nutrients in standing and downed trees, recycling them back into the soil to support the next generation of trees and shrubs.

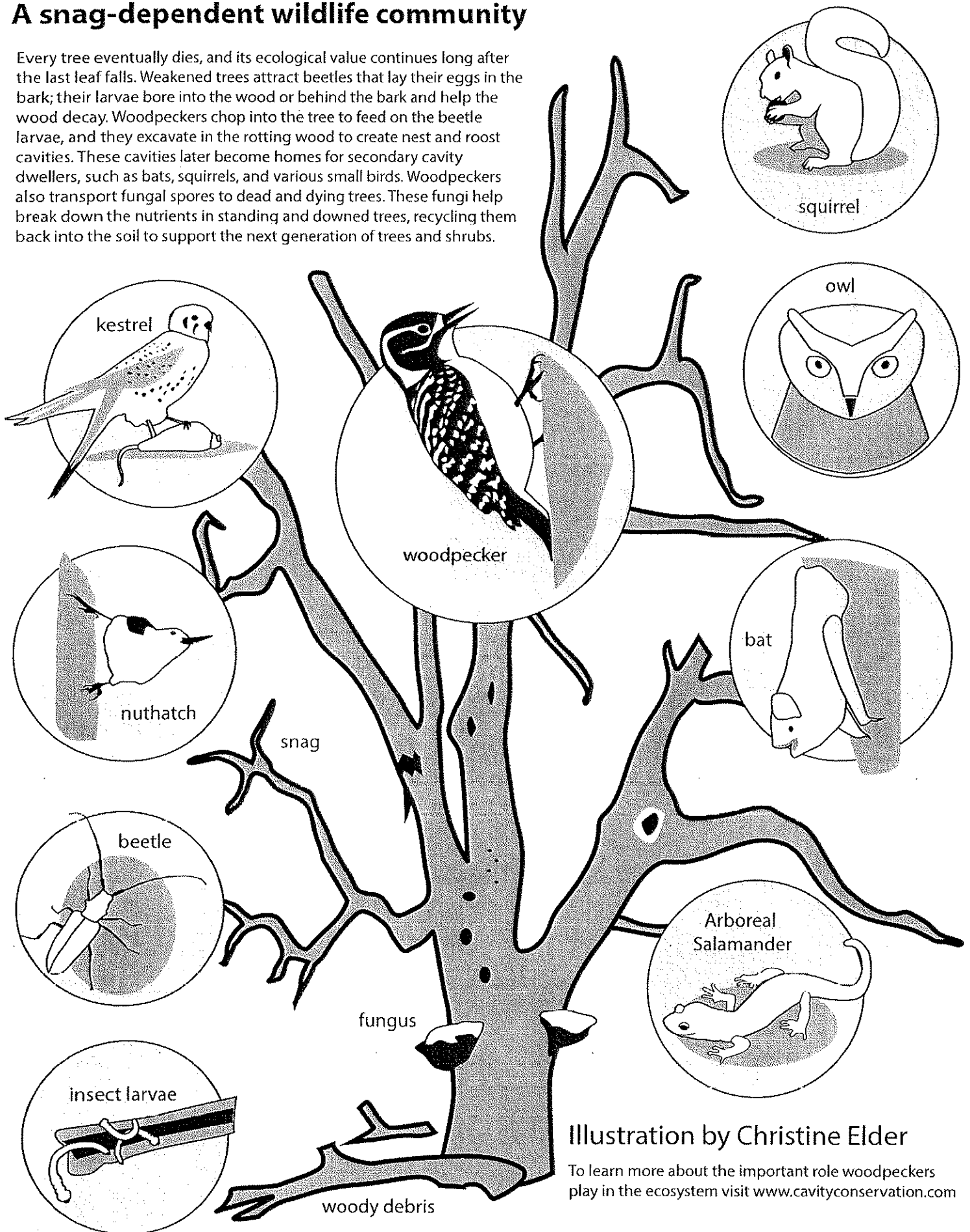
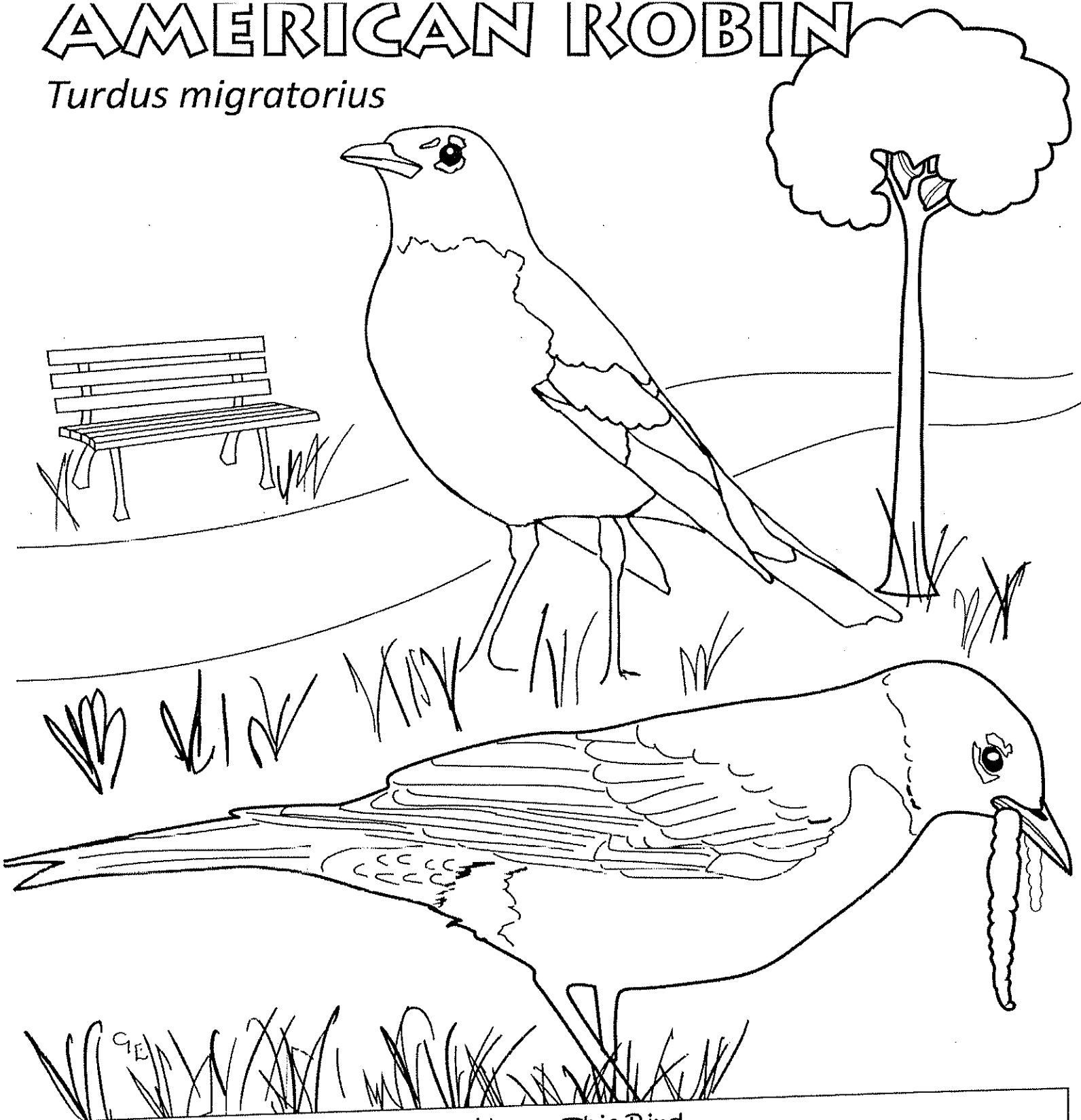


Illustration by Christine Elder

To learn more about the important role woodpeckers play in the ecosystem visit www.cavityconservation.com

AMERICAN ROBIN

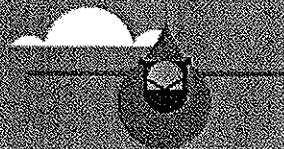
Turdus migratorius



About This Bird

The American Robin is probably the most familiar and beloved bird in the United States. They bound across lawns or stand erect, beak tilted upward, to survey their surroundings. Robins are common across the continent in gardens, parks, yards, golf courses, fields, pastures, tundra, as well as deciduous woodlands, pine forests, and shrublands. Illustration by Christine Elder. Download more coloring pages at ChristineElder.com/bird-coloring-pages/

The Great Backyard Bird Count



Art by Charles Harper

February Checklist for Cedar Falls, Black Hawk County, IA

Click on linked species names below for more information about those species.

[Show this checklist with rare species included.](#)

Waterfowl

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Goose | <input type="checkbox"/> Canvasback |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ross's Goose | <input type="checkbox"/> Redhead |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snow/Ross's Goose | <input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Duck |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cackling Goose | <input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Scaup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cackling Goose (Richardson's) | <input type="checkbox"/> Greater/Lesser Scaup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canada Goose | <input type="checkbox"/> Bufflehead |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cackling/Canada Goose | <input type="checkbox"/> Common Goldeneye |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trumpeter Swan | <input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Merganser |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Duck | <input type="checkbox"/> Common Merganser |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Shoveler | <input type="checkbox"/> Common Merganser (North American) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gadwall | <input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Merganser |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mallard | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruddy Duck |
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Black Duck | <input type="checkbox"/> duck sp. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Pintail | |

Grouse, Quail, and Allies

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Pheasant | <input type="checkbox"/> Gray Partridge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Pheasant (Ring-necked) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wild Turkey |

Grebes

- [Pied-billed Grebe](#)

Pigeons and Doves

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Collared-Dove | |

Shorebirds

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Killdeer | <input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's Snipe |
|---|---|

Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ring-billed Gull | <input type="checkbox"/> Herring Gull (American) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Herring Gull | <input type="checkbox"/> gull sp. |

Hérons, Ibis, and Allies

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron | <input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron (Blue form) |
|---|---|

Vultures, Hawks, and Allies

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Harrier | <input type="checkbox"/> Red-shouldered Hawk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk | <input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk (Northern) | <input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk (borealis) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooper's Hawk | <input type="checkbox"/> Rough-legged Hawk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accipiter sp. | <input type="checkbox"/> Buteo sp. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle | |

Owls

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Screech-Owl | <input type="checkbox"/> Long-eared Owl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Horned Owl | <input type="checkbox"/> Short-eared Owl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Horned Owl (Great Horned) | <input type="checkbox"/> Short-eared Owl (Northern) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barred Owl | <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Saw-whet Owl |

Kingfishers

- [Belted Kingfisher](#)

Woodpeckers

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red-headed Woodpecker | <input type="checkbox"/> Pileated Woodpecker |
|--|--|

_____ [Red-bellied Woodpecker](#)
_____ [Downy Woodpecker](#)
_____ [Hairy Woodpecker](#)

Falcons and Caracaras

_____ [American Kestrel](#)
_____ [Merlin](#)

Shrikes

_____ [Northern Shrike](#)

Jays, Magpies, Crows, and Ravens

_____ [Blue Jay](#)

Tits, Chickadees, and Titmice

_____ [Black-capped Chickadee](#)

Larks

_____ [Horned Lark](#)

Kinglets

_____ [Golden-crowned Kinglet](#)

Nuthatches

_____ [Red-breasted Nuthatch](#)

Treecreepers

_____ [Brown Creeper](#)

Wrens

_____ [Winter Wren](#)

Starlings and Mynas

_____ [European Starling](#)

Thrushes

_____ [Eastern Bluebird](#)
_____ [Catharus sp.](#)

Waxwings

_____ [Cedar Waxwing](#)

Old World Sparrows

_____ [House Sparrow](#)

Finches, Euphonias, and Allies

_____ [House Finch](#)
_____ [Purple Finch](#)

Longspurs and Snow Buntings

_____ [Lapland Longspur](#)

New World Sparrows

_____ [American Tree Sparrow](#)
_____ [Fox Sparrow](#)
_____ [Fox Sparrow \(Red\)](#)
_____ [Dark-eyed Junco](#)
_____ [Dark-eyed Junco \(Slate-colored/cismontanus\)](#)
_____ [Dark-eyed Junco \(Slate-colored\)](#)
_____ [Dark-eyed Junco \(cismontanus\)](#)

Blackbirds

_____ [Western/Eastern Meadowlark](#)
_____ [Red-winged Blackbird](#)
_____ [Brown-headed Cowbird](#)
_____ [Rusty Blackbird](#)

Cardinals, Grosbeaks, and Allies

_____ [Northern Cardinal](#)

Others

_____ [passerine sp.](#)

_____ [Northern Flicker](#)
_____ [Northern Flicker \(Yellow-shafted\)](#)

_____ [Merlin \(Taiga\)](#)
_____ [Merlin \(Prairie\)](#)

_____ [Loggerhead/Northern Shrike](#)

_____ [American Crow](#)

_____ [Tufted Titmouse](#)

_____ [White-breasted Nuthatch](#)

_____ [Carolina Wren](#)

_____ [American Robin](#)

_____ [Pine Siskin](#)
_____ [American Goldfinch](#)

_____ [Snow Bunting](#)

_____ [White-crowned Sparrow](#)
_____ [White-crowned Sparrow \(leucophrys\)](#)
_____ [Harris's Sparrow](#)
_____ [White-throated Sparrow](#)
_____ [Song Sparrow](#)
_____ [Swamp Sparrow](#)

_____ [Brewer's Blackbird](#)
_____ [Common Grackle](#)
_____ [blackbird sp.](#)

[Back to Checklist Index](#)

Silly Suet

Here are some ideas for making suet treats for feeding backyard birds

Start with a sticky, greasy paste to stick everything together. Peanut Butter, lard (hog fat), shortening, or suet (beef fat) work great mixed together or by themselves. Then decide what you would like to mix into your sticky goo.

Here is a list to get your started:

- Corn meal
- safflower seeds
- sunflower seeds
- thistle seeds
- Cracked Corn
- nuts
- Crushed Cookies
- donuts
- cereal
- Crushed Crackers

Hanging-Log Feeder

One of the easiest, and in many ways most satisfactory, bird-feeding arrangements is the hanging log, known to its contributors again for any new members of the club. It is a favorite eating spot for all tree-clinging birds, and some others will also crop in for a bite.

A drilled log is simple to prepare, even better, it looks like part of the natural setting. Band your own woodpile or a firewood dealer's for a log or tree limb with rough bark so the birds can hang on readily.

Materials

- Length of rough-hewn log or log limb, 1-4 inches in diameter, and 16-24 inches long
- Eye screw
- Hanging wire

Directions

1. Drill some holes in the log, each at least an inch in diameter and an inch (or a little more) deep, spaced about 3 inches apart. If making 1-inch holes seems a problem, use 1 1/2 inch holes, an ordinary 1/2-inch electric drill, yard-ware stores, sell a 1-inch drill bit that will fit it and will make five or six holes in five or six minutes. Alternatively, if you have a saw but no drill, make a number of coarse diagonal cuts into the bark of the log, making them as wide as you can. Finally, insert an eye screw into the top end of the log and add a wire for hanging it up or drive nails into opposite sides of the log near the top and rig a hanging wire between them.

Back-rendered suet can give the supply of fresh lard and nutmeats in the log. Do not forget to clean the holes of dust and debris on the log.

To fill simply unpack the log and pack it with fresh food, using a rubber palette or your fingers.

From The Bird With
Feed The Bird With
by Helen S. Oak



Hanging logs are easy to drill.



A drilled log fits to fasten to tree or post.

FIXED-LOG FEEDER

Use a half-round section of a largeish log. Drill and fit the holes as for the hanging-log feeder. Then bolt or nail the log to a post at a height convenient for refilling.



Bird Species and their Food Preferences

Black-oil sunflower

Cardinals, blue jays, chickadees, evening grosbeaks, nuthatches, tufted titmice, purple finches, and downy, hairy, and red-bellied woodpeckers

Sunflower hearts

White-throated sparrows, goldfinches, house finches, cardinals, blue jays, chickadees, evening grosbeaks, nuthatches, tufted titmice, purple finches, and downy, hairy, and red-bellied woodpeckers

Peanut hearts

Blue jays, juncos, nuthatches, and downy, hairy, and red-bellied woodpeckers

White proso millet

House sparrows, mourning doves, tree, field, and song sparrows, white-throated sparrows, and juncos

Niger thistle

Goldfinches, house finches, and purple finches

Cracked corn

Juncos, mourning doves, blue jays, white-throated sparrows, house sparrows, and grackles

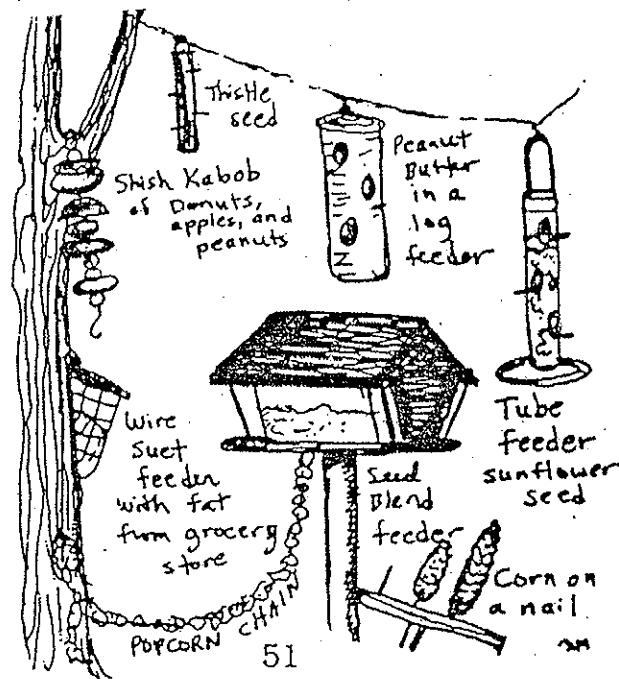
Suet

Downy, hairy, and red-bellied woodpeckers, nuthatches, flickers, and chickadees

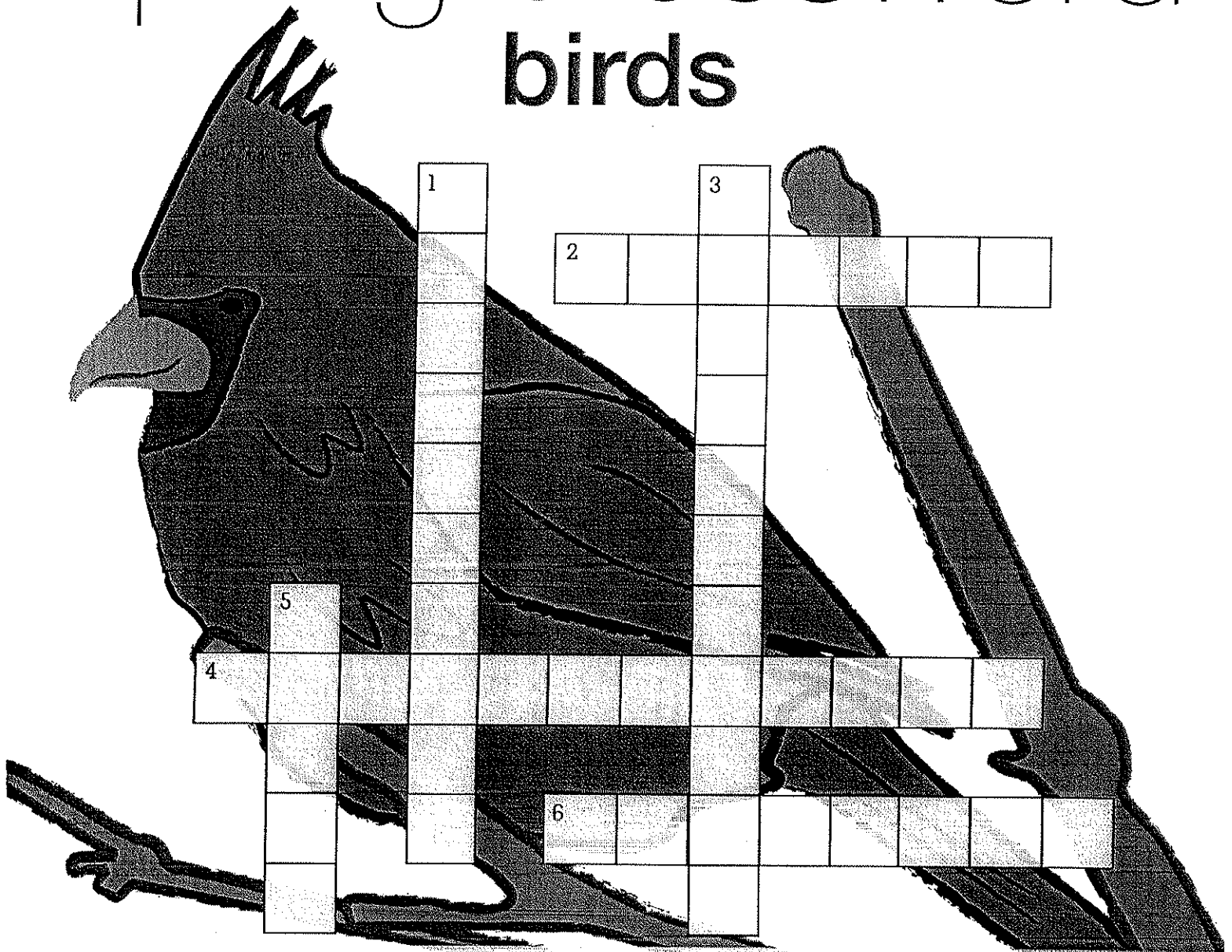
Sugar water

Hummingbirds

Seeds that are not preferred are milo, hulled oats, rape, wheat, and red proso millet.



spring crossword birds



Across

3. A blue bird with a crest on its head.
4. These birds are known for mimicing the sounds of other birds.
6. A red bird with a crest of feathers on its head.

Down

1. This bird pounds its beak into wood to find insects.
2. Small birds that eat nectar.
5. A bird that typically has a red breast.

Word Bank

Robin Woodpecker Bluejay Hummingbirds Mockingbirds Cardinal



Activity Sheet: Birdwatching ID Sheet

Size: Is the bird larger than a sparrow (6 inches), a robin (10 inches), or a crow (20 inches)?

Shape: Body shape: plump, sleek, thin, short, streamlined
Beak shape: thick, thin, long, short, stabbing, straight, curved
Head shape: crested, plain
Tail shape: forked, notched, square-tipped, round-tipped, pointed, long, short
Leg shape: long, short, feathered, featherless
Foot shape: webbed, lobed, talons, perching
Coloration: wingbars, rump-patch, eye ring or stripe, crown color
Breast pattern: streaked, spotted, plain

Habitats: What type of habitat was the bird observed?

Behavior: How is the bird acting?

Song: Identify words to the sound.

Size	Color	Shape	Habitat	Behavior	Song	Species

Bird Behavior Bingo

Type of Activity: Game

Objective: Children will be able to describe different bird behaviors and how these behaviors help birds survive.

Time Needed: 20 minutes to make bingo cards
30 minutes to play game

Age Level: K- 6th grades

Best Season: Spring, Summer or Fall

Equipment or Materials Needed:

copies of bingo sheets
cardboard
scissors
glue
marker or something to mark bingo card

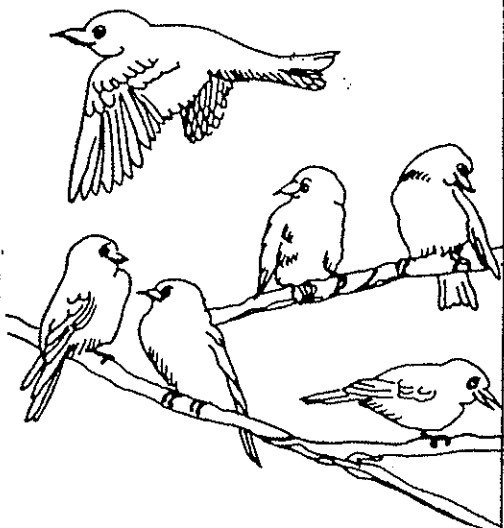
Procedure:

1. Pass out bingo picture and have children make their bingo cards. Cut out pictures and arrange on cardboard. Glue down to cardboard. Color pictures if you wish. Laminate card if they are to be reused.
2. Take the group for a bird hike. When a bird is spotted or heard, mark the bingo card. Then talk about the behavior. For example, if a bird is preening, talk about why it does that.
3. First person to mark three pictures in a row (across, down or diagonally) is the winner.
4. Game variations: Make a T, make a L, mark all four corners, or fill the whole card.



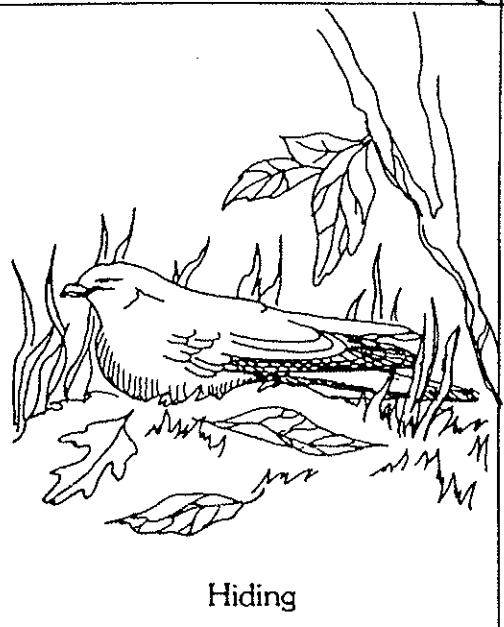
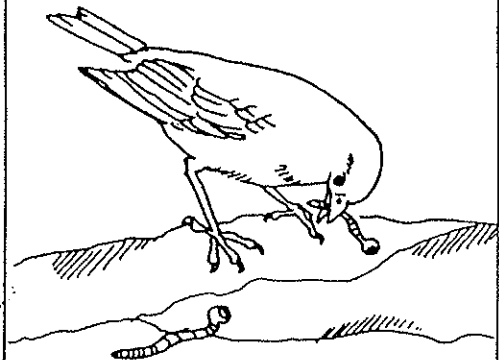
Bird Behavior Bingo Sheet

Flocking

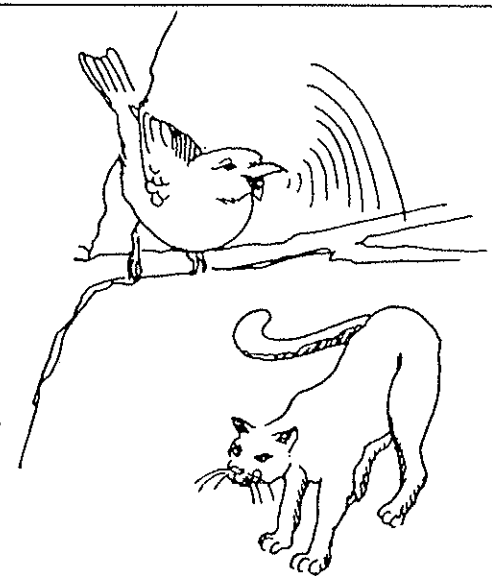


Bathing
(in water or dust)

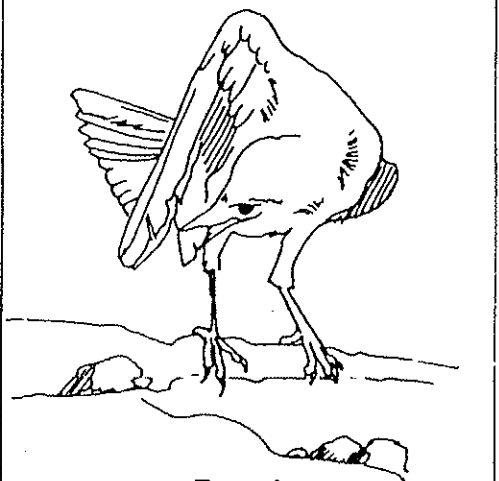
Feeding



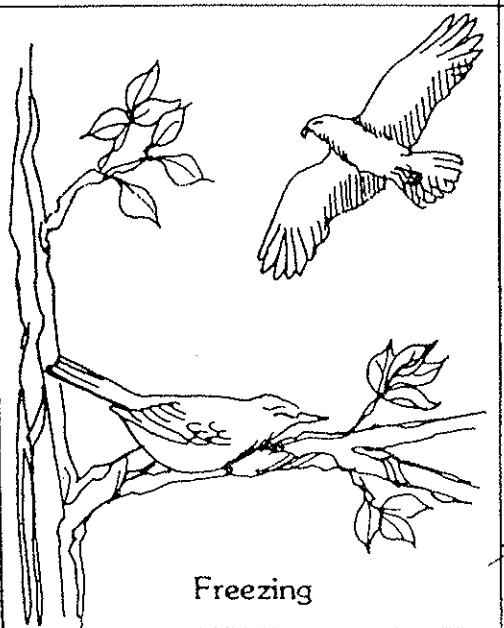
Hiding



Giving an alarm call



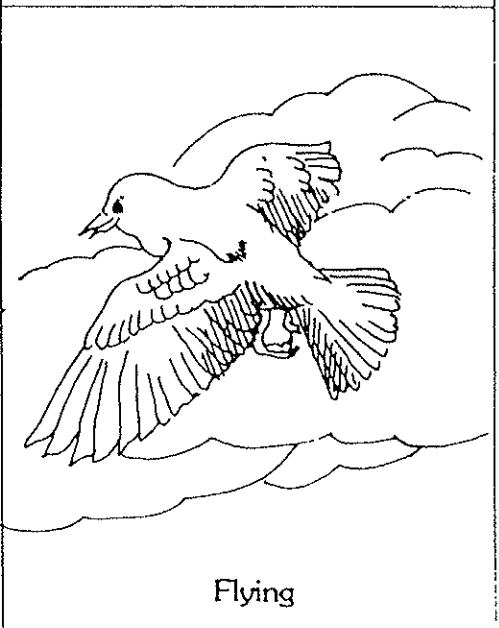
Preening



Freezing



Singing



Flying