



Bird Watch

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A Student Field Survey



Black-capped chickadee

Name: _____ Date: _____

Location: _____

Weather: _____ Observers in group: _____

Start time: _____ End time: _____ Minutes watched: _____

Survey: Stay in one place [] Walk [] Distance walked: _____

Watch for at least 15 minutes. Use a new sheet for each observation session.

Record each species once; estimate different birds, not repeat visits.

Bird species	Number	Seen/heard	Behavior / ID clues

Write S = seen, H = heard, or B = both. Unsure? Describe or sketch on page 2.



Northern cardinal

Number of species identified: _____

Did you identify every species you observed? Yes [] No []

No birds today? Record that, too!



Watch & Discover

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1. Choose a safe spot and watch quietly.

Keep your distance from birds and nests.

2. Observe for 15 minutes or longer.

Use a guide or ask an adult to help identify birds.

3. Count different birds of each species.

Avoid recounting birds that leave and return.



Blue jay

For a feeder: start with the largest number of a species seen together.

Add more only when you can tell they are different individuals. Do not guess IDs.

Sketch a bird you observed

Label its beak, colors, markings, and tail. An unidentified bird is worth studying!

Bird name, or my best description: _____

Think about your habitat

What was one bird doing?

What food, water, or shelter did you notice?

One way we could help birds here:



American robin

Teacher / family note: Join the Great Backyard Bird Count

Check current event dates at birdcount.org. An adult can submit species and counts through eBird; beginners can share sightings through Merlin. For a group, submit one shared checklist. This paper does not submit data. Use it for birdwatching all year!

Guidance: birdcount.org/participate/ | Independent educational resource.