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bird in the field, remembering what certain parts

location and behavior, field marks can be used to help identify birds. If you can't identify

Marks

Thanks for joining us on the trail today! Visit our website to find more TRACK Trail™ adventures near you!

The next generation of stewards will help preserve the world's plants, animals, natural lands and our heritage. What will you do to make a difference?



Kids in Parkş...

Providing a network of fun-filled adventures that get kids and families active outdoors and connected to nature.



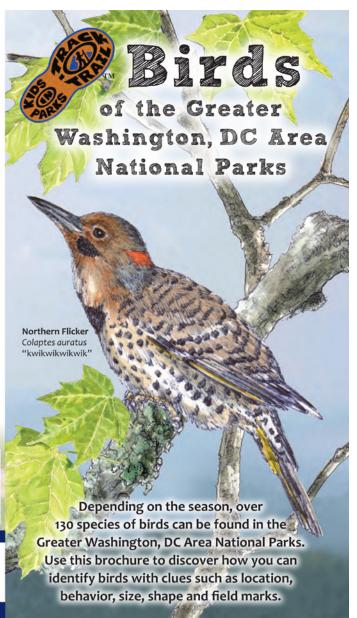
Kids in Parks Founding Partner













When trying to identify a bird, the first things to look for are location and behavior. Is the bird up high making noise, or on the ground digging in leaves? Next, think about size and shape. Is it big like a crow, or small like a sparrow? Does it have pointy wings, or a long tail? Finally, you can use field marks to identify birds—flip to the back panel to discover how.

Circle the birds you find on your hike today!

in the trees?

on the ground?

Almost all the birds of the DC Region use trees and shrubs for food, shelter, or nesting. Woodpeckers and chickadees make their nests in the cavities of trees and pick insects from the bark. Trees can provide seeds and berries for birds such as cardinals and goldfinches to eat.

Look into the trees. How many different birds can you find? What parts of the tree are the birds using?



Northern Cardinal Cardinalis cardinalis whistles "woit woit chew chew chew." American Goldfinch Carduelis tristis "per-chik-o-ry" in flight

in the air?

Birds that spend a lot of time in the air use their strong eyesight to find food. Hawks, crows and vultures can usually be found perched or circling up high as they search for their next meal. Scan the sky over fields and through openings in the trees. Are there any large birds flying overhead?

Are they flapping or gliding?

Turkey Vulture Cathartes aura warning "hsssss"

Red-tailed Hawk Buteo jamaicensis "chewwwv" raspy scream

American Crow Corvus brachyrhynchos "caww caww"

making noise?

Birds make all kinds of noises — some sing to attract a mate, while others will call attention to food, danger or territory. Carolina wrens are known for their loud, cheerful song and chattering sounds. Northern mockingbirds can imitate hundreds of different sounds, and will sometimes sing at night! Close your eyes and listen for one minute. How many different birds can you hear around you?



"Pik, pik, pik"

Birds that feed on the ground usually specialize in catching bugs or finding seeds. American Robins use their beaks

Mourning doves peck insects and seeds from gravelly areas. Check the ground near trail, stream and field edges.

to pull earthworms from the ground. Juncos and towhees scratch through leaves to uncover fallen seeds and berries.

Dark-eyed Junco Junco Hyemalis short, musical trill

Eastern Towhee
ipilo erythrophthalmus
"drink your teeeee"

Mourning Dove Zenaida macroura mournful "ooAAH cooo coo coo"

ustrations by David Williams, Wingin' It Works

cooo coo coo" varied "pidaro pidaro pidaro"

Northern Mockingbird
Mimus polyglottos
varied phrases "krrDEE krrDEE

krrDEE, jeurrdi jeurrdi"

Carolina Wren
Thryothorus Iudovicianus