

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Families—Your child has been learning about bird communication. This sheet offers information and activities so the whole family can enjoy birds too.

DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?

Bird Sound Matching

Go outside early in the morning and listen to the dawn chorus of birds. Open your ears and maybe even close your eyes to focus on different animal sounds. Write a description of what you hear. If you're up for a challenge, try to identify birds based on some of the sounds learned in class.



Draw lines to match these birds to the way they sing. Listen to these calls at AllAboutBirds.org.

BIRD SPECIES

Black-capped Chickadee

American Crow

Mourning Dove

American Robin

Northern Cardinal

Blue Jay

American Goldfinch

Red-winged Blackbird

SOUNDS LIKE

*“hoo-oo, hoo-hoo-hoo”**“chick-a-dee-dee-dee”**“cheer-up, cheer-up”**“caw, caw, caw”**“wa-cheer, wa-cheer”**“o-ka-lee, o-ka-lee”**“jay, jay”**“potato-chip, potato-chip”*

COOL FACT

What's That
I Hear?

During the breeding season, male birds sing to attract females and to warn other males to keep out of their territories. These songs are often musical. In addition, birds use a variety of calls to sound alarm, to keep track of each other, and to tell each other about food. These calls are often short and not very musical. Some birds use non-vocal sounds in place of songs or calls. For example, woodpeckers tap rhythms on tree trunks. This drumming may attract a mate or mark territorial boundaries.

Bird of the Month

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH

American Goldfinches move south in the winter following a pattern that seems to coincide with regions where the minimum January temperature is no colder than 0 degrees Fahrenheit, on average.



Hands-On Activity

SONG VISUALIZATION

Go outside and listen to bird songs and other sounds from nature. Create a picture in your mind of what you hear. Focus on the movement and the mood of the sounds. Get your favorite art materials and use them to make a visual representation of what you heard. If you are still looking for inspiration, check out MacaulayLibrary.org for sound and video recordings and spectrograms of bird songs.