

# Activities

Want to learn more about birds? Get active with some of the activities below.

## Birds in your yard

What birds visit your area? Some people keep a “yard list,” which is a list of all the birds they’ve seen in their yard. If you want more birds to visit your yard, consider getting a bird feeder or a bird bath. Bird baths are especially helpful in dry places.

## Bird observations

To see the wonderful diversity of birds, go on a walk. What birds do you see? What are they doing? Eating? Hunting? Grooming? Make some notes. Record the time, place, number, and type of birds. Do you see more at certain times of day? Or during different types of weather? To record your sightings, you can use the observation sheet on the next page. Download more sheets at [ColorBird.org](http://ColorBird.org).

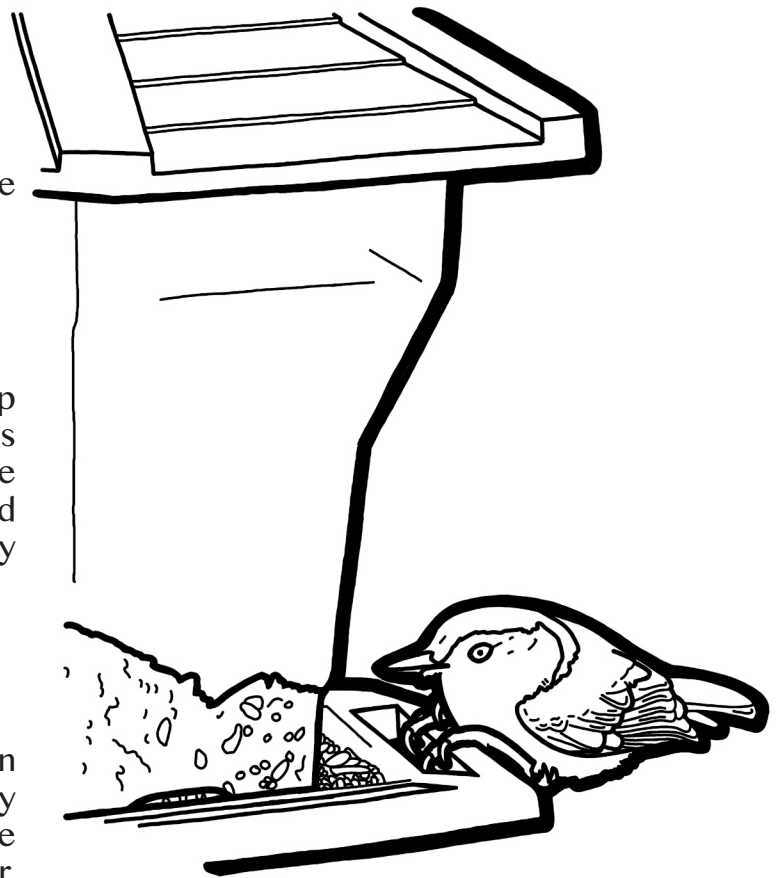
## Join a bird count

A bird count is a big event where lots of people, either together or separately, look for birds on the same day. This information helps scientists figure out if species are becoming more or less common or changing where they live. Plus, they’re fun! Two big bird counts are the Christmas Bird Count, which takes place near Christmas, and the Great Backyard Bird Count, in February.

You don’t need to be an expert to join. Everyone can participate! For more information, check out [BirdCount.org](http://BirdCount.org).

## Join an Audubon society

Audubon Societies are bird clubs. Anyone can join. Most Audubon Societies organize bird



walks or talks where you can learn about fascinating topics. Visit [Audubon.org](http://Audubon.org) to look for an Audubon Society near you.

## Learn some bird calls

Some birds, like owls, can be difficult to see, especially if they stay in dense bushes or far away in trees. But did you know: you can identify many birds by the sounds they make.

To learn more about the birds near you, look up common birds in your area. [eBird.org](http://eBird.org) is a good place to start. For bird calls, try out an app like Merlin or BirdNET—they can ID unknown birds by the calls and songs they make.

## Citizen science projects

Birds live almost everywhere. For such a big topic, it’s useful to have a lot of people on the lookout for different kinds of birds. Scientists study birds in a variety of ways. If you’d like to help, you can join a “citizen science” project. To learn more, check out [birds.cornell.edu](http://birds.cornell.edu).