

# Unit study and lapbook prepared by Robin Diedrichs

#### Library List

The Robins in Your Backyard by Nancy Carol Willis

Roger Tory Peterson's ABC of Birds by Linda Westervelt

If You Were a Bird by S. J. Calder

Beaks by Sneed Collard

Birds by Gallimard Jeunesse, Claude Delafosse, and Rene Mettler

The Egg by Gallimard Jeunesse and Pascale de Bourgoing

Cats by Gallimard Jeunesse

#### Objectives

Enjoyment of bird poems and songs

Identification and matching colors – red, yellow, green, blue, purple, orange, brown, gray, black and pink

Introduce and explore the concept of camouflage

Use tally marks to represent an object

Learn facts about common neighborhood birds

Explore bird body parts and compare to human body parts

Discuss and learn about cats

Sort cat foods according to two criteria – wild and store bought

Investigate rhyming words

Discover the care of God for birds and humans

Explore the letters B and C

#### Lessons

#### Music/Poetry:

Read and enjoy the poems and songs. Repeated readings will help your child learn the poems and songs and will promote phonemic awareness.

#### Colors:

Talk about the different colors in <u>Feathers for Lunch</u> represented by the birds and plants. Use the "What Color is the Plant?" flap book to match the plants to their color.

You can also discuss the concept of camouflage in relation to birds. Talk about how the male birds tend to be more colorful than the female bird – for example, the male cardinal is a brilliant red and the female cardinal is tan. Birds use camouflage to hide from their enemies by blending in with their environment. Have your child try to camouflage the birds in the "Camouflage the Birds" Game by placing the birds on similar colors in your living room. Then you or another child can pretend to be the cat and try to find the "hidden" birds. Then reverse rolls and play the game again.

#### <u>Math</u>

Choose a location – neighborhood, local park, zoo, backyard – and take a walk to hunt for birds. Use the **Bird Colors Page.** Fill in the blank with the location – in your neighborhood, at Doling Park, at the zoo, in your backyard. Teach your child how to make a tally mark each time they see a particular color bird in the corresponding colored circle. For example, when a cardinal is seen, put a tally mark in the red circle. When you get home, you could use colored objects (blocks, cubes, tiles, ...) to make a hands-on graph comparing the amount of each colored bird that they saw. Then you could compare the different amounts by asking questions like, "Which color of birds did we see the most?", "Which color did we see the least?", and "Were there any amounts of colors that were the same?". The level of questions will depend on your child.

#### <u>Science</u>

Discuss the different birds represented in the book Feathers for Lunch – Northern

Cardinal, Northern Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Blue Jay, American Robin, Mourning Dove, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow, House Wren, Northern Flicker, and Red-headed Woodpecker. The back of the book tells about the different characteristics of these birds – size, food, home, and area. It also challenges you to look for these birds in your neighborhood.

You can listen to the different sounds of the birds at this website.

As a follow up to making the guidebook and looking for the birds from <u>Feathers</u> <u>for Lunch</u>, play the "Bird Lotto" game. Give each child a lotto card. The children take turns spinning the spinner and covering the corresponding bird on their lotto card with a marker (pennies, torn up paper, ...). The winner is the first person to get four in a row – either straight or diagonally.

Sing "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes" with your child. Have your child identify his different body parts. Tell him/her that birds have different body parts just like people do. Some of their parts have the same names as ours but some parts are different. Introduce the following bird part terms – wing, crown, beak, leg, feathers, foot, and tail. Introduce the story of <u>Billie Bird</u> in the "Body Parts of Bird" lapbook component. Read the story several times and perform the movements that correspond. Use the mini-book to match the body part terms to the proper place on the bird using magnetic tape.

In <u>Feathers for Lunch</u> a cat is on the prowl for a bird to catch for lunch. Have a discussion about cats with your child. What does he know about cats? Does he have a cat or has he had any experiences with cats? Talk about what the cat was doing in the story. Make the Cats Layer book to learn additional facts about cats. You could also read about cats and look at different types of cats on the internet. Discuss the concept of predator/prey. Talk about the type of food a cat would hunt and relate that to the predator/prey concept. Complete the Prey Slider and add it to your lapbook.

Compare and contrast the difference between cats and birds using the "Who's Who?" lapbook component. Instead of "teaching" the difference between mammals and birds, present your child with the tabs from the lapbook component and allow them to tell you which describe a bird and which describe a

cat. Use this activity to provide a beginning discussion of the differences between mammals and birds.

<u>Sorting</u>: Discuss the part of <u>Feathers for Lunch</u> that says about the cat, "He's looking for lunch, something new, a spicy treat for today's menu. His food in a can is tame and mild, so he's gone out for something wild". Brainstorm a list of food that cats eat with your child. Discuss which foods are bought at a store and which foods a cat can catch in the wild. Complete the cat diet mini-book.

#### Language Arts

Rhyming Words – Talk to your child about words that sound the same at the end – book/look, sit/hit, ... Tell him that these words are rhyming words and there are some rhyming words in <u>Feathers for Lunch</u>. Read the book <u>Feathers for Lunch</u> having your child listen for words that sound the same at the end. Depending on your child, some at this early stage may be able to recognize the pairs and with other children they will need them pointed out. Make this an enjoyable experience and have fun saying the words together! You can also make the rhyming eggs for your lapbook.

Alphabet – This lapbook would be an opportune time to add B and C pages to an <u>Alphabet Notebook</u>. (You can begin your discussions with B is for Bird and C is for Cat.)

#### Bible Verse:

Discuss the scripture verse Matthew 6:26 – "Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your Heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?"

Talk about how important we are to God and how He will care for us even better than He cares for the birds. This is not intended for memory work unless so desired.

#### <u>Art</u>

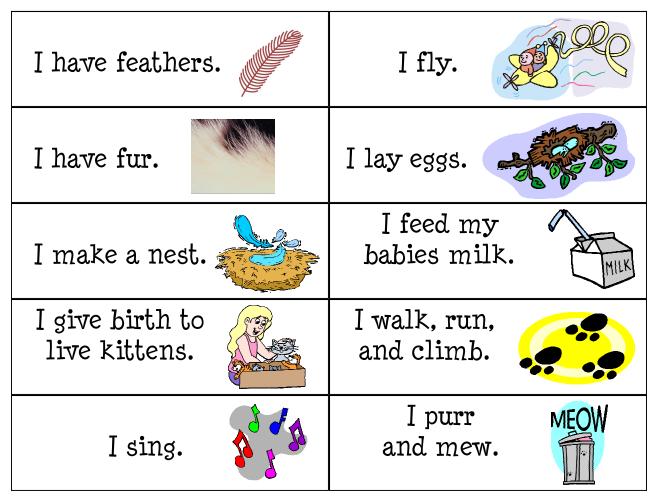
Feather art – Give your child feathers – one per paint color. Allow him to paint the picture as desired using the feathers.

Make bird binoculars using two toilet paper rolls painted and stapled together. Attach string to wear around their necks. Wear during your bird watching expeditions.

Materials and information may be used for your own personal and school use. <u>Material may not be used for resale or shared electronically</u>.

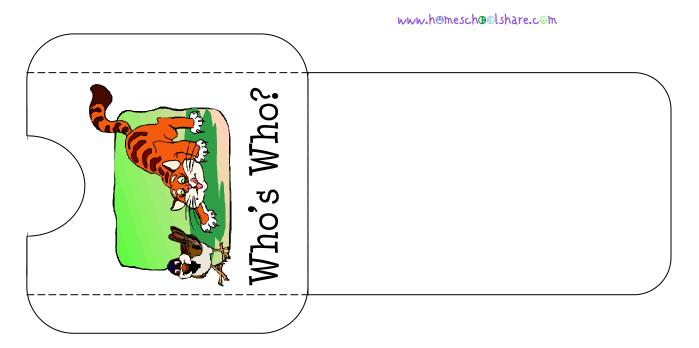
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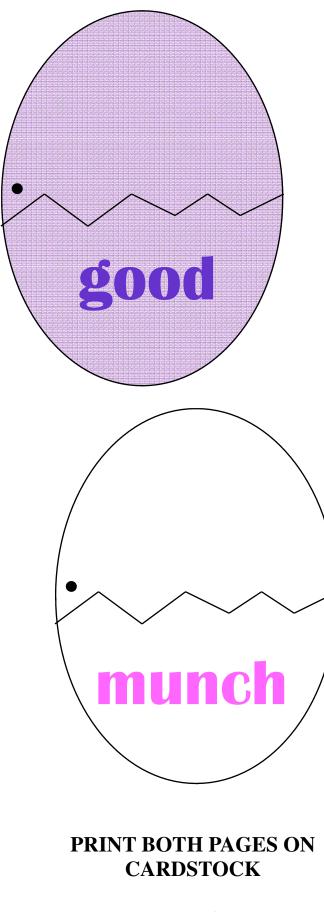
Contraction of the second seco	Cat	Bird

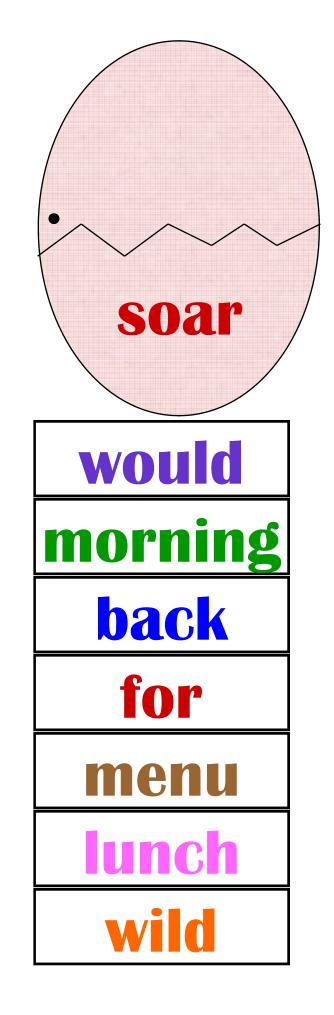


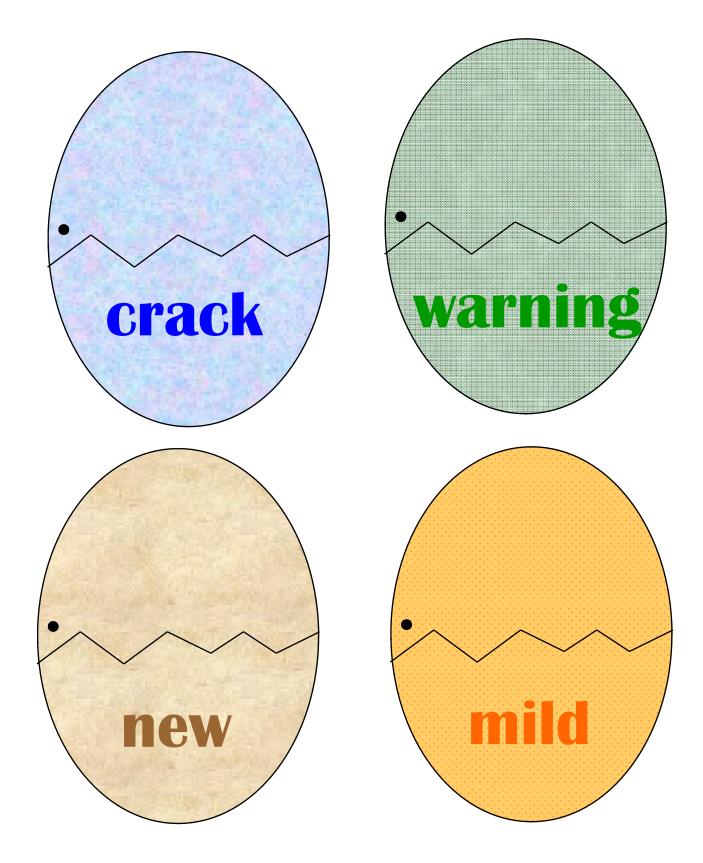
**PRINT FIRST PAGE ON CARDSTOCK.** Cut out chart on previous page as one piece. Store in pocket on back of lapbook (see unit for sample video).

Cut pieces on this page apart. Store in pocket in your lapbook. Help your student place the pieces on the chart on the appropriate side (cat or bird).









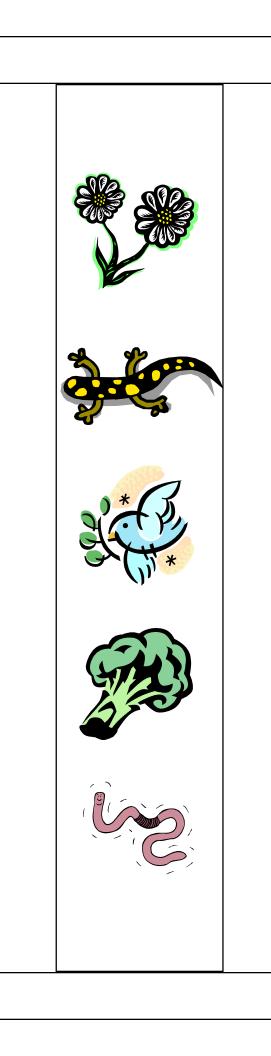
Cut out egg and cut on zig zag lines. Attach bottom of egg to the lapbook and fasten top of egg to lapbook using a brass fastener. Paste matching rhyming word behind the top half of the egg on the lapbook. Pull egg half up to reveal the rhyming word and pull down to hide it. If limited space in lapbook choose just a few eggs.

Food Wild kind of food do What eat? cats 0 Store Food

Cut out as one piece. Fold in half. Open. Fold ends to the inside. Fold in half again. Look at the pictures of the different types of food and compare. Have your child sort the pictures and choose some to glue on the store side and some to glue on the wild side. You could print this on sticker paper instead of using glue.



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Print on cardstock. Cut out the two pieces (the cat strip and the long strip).

Using an exacto knife, cut the slits on the cat piece.

Carefully put the top of the letter strip under the top slit. Carefully put the bottom of the letter strip under the bottom slit. Your student should be able to move the strip up and down to locate prey for the cat.

### Bird Poems & Songs



#### Birds Fly High

Sung to "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star"

Birds fly high and bees fly low, Caterpillars crawl and river flow, Cats meow and cows go 'moo'. Puppies bark and babies 'coo'. So many things to see and hear, I use my eyes and I use my ears.



Birds Fly High

Behold the duck. It does not cluck. A cluck it lacks. It quacks. It is specially fond Of a puddle or pond. When it dines or sups, It bottoms ups. Ogden Nash



The Duck

#### Humming Birds

I think it is a funny thing That some birds whistle, others sing. That Warbler warbles in his throat, The Sparrow only Knows one note; But he is better off than some, For Humming Birds can only hum.



#### Humming Birds

Guira bird and hummingbird taken from http:// blog.earth-touch.com/index.php/archive/tags/bird

#### Six Little Ducks

Six little ducks that I once Knew, Fat ones, skinny ones, fair ones, too; But the one little duck with the feather on his back, He led the others with a quack, quack, quack.

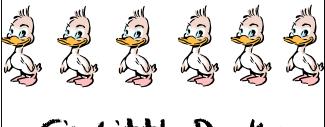
Quack, quack, quack, quack, quack, quack He led the others with a quack, quack, quack.

Down to the river they would go, Wibble, wobble, wibble, wobble, to and fro; But the one little duck with the feather on his back, He led the others with a quack, quack, quack.

Quack, quack, quack, quack, quack, quack. He led the others with a quack, quack, quack.

Back from the river they would come, Wibble, wobble, wibble, wobble, ho, hum, hum; But the one little duck with the feather on his back, He led the others with a quack, quack, quack.

Quack, quack, quack, quack, quack, quack. He led the others with a quack, quack, quack.



Six Little Ducks

#### Woodpecker

Woodpecker is rubber-necked But has a nose of steel. He bangs his head against the wall And cannot even feel. When Woodpecker's jack-hammer head Starts up its dreadful din Knocking the dead bough double dead How do his eyes stay in? Pity the poor dead oak that cries In terrors and in pains. But pity more Woodpecker's eyes And bouncing rubber brains. By Ted Hughes

#### Woodpecker

Little darling of the snow, Careless how the winds may blow, Happy as a bird can be, Singing, oh, so cheerily, Chickadee-dee! Chickadee-dee!

When the skies are cold and gray, When he trills his happiest lay, Through the clouds he seems to see Hidden things to you and me. Chickadee-dee! chickadee-dee!

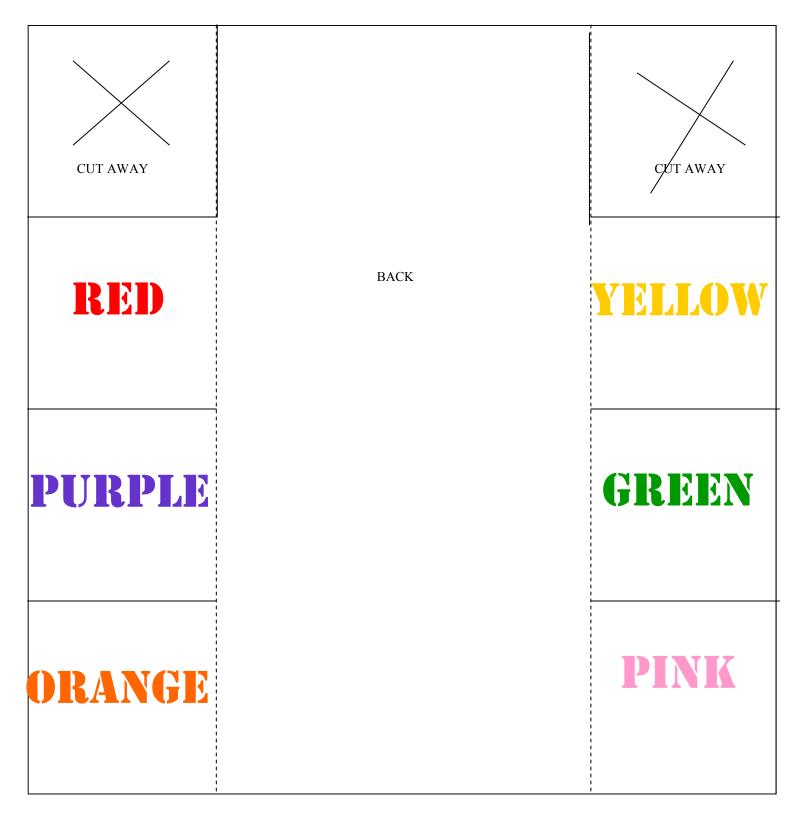
Very likely little birds Have their thoughts too deep for word,

But we know, and all agree, That the world would dreary be Without birds, dear chickadee!



The Chickadee-Dee

Print page. Cut on solid lines; fold on dotted lines. On the center top portion, paste your title. Have child match plants to the matching color and paste under the flap.



### WHAT COLOR IS THE PLANT?



The Dow Gardens Archive, Dow Gardens, Bugwood.org









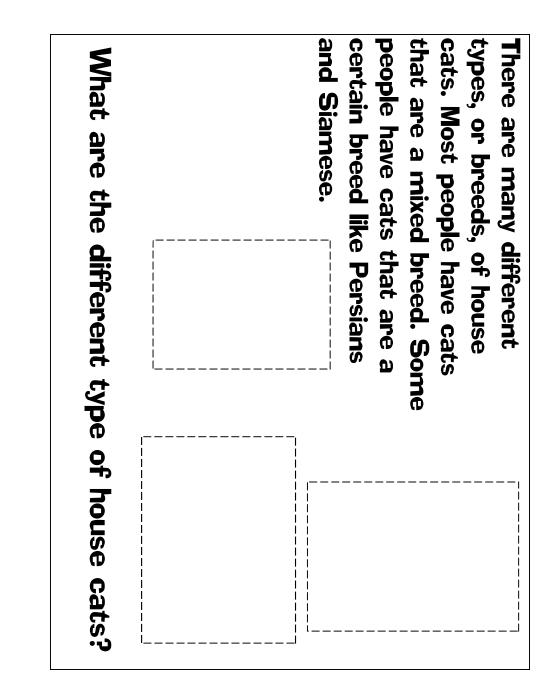
Howard F. Schwartz, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org



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What family does a	they is it i
y does a c	Cats belong to the felidae family. This includes tigers, lions, leopards, cougars, cheetahs, caracals, and house cats. These animals are all carnivores because they are meat eaters.
cat belong to?	the felida gers, lions gars, cheet carnivore: eaters.
to;	s because

(tittie) Ome two three	2 7 7
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the rectangle on each page of pages 1-3. Stack together with the smallest on top and Print pages 1-3 on regular paper and print page 4 on sticker paper if desired. Cut out child determine where the pictures go based on the text as well as the shape of the the largest on the bottom. Staple at the top. Read the book together and have the pictures matched to the boxes on each page.

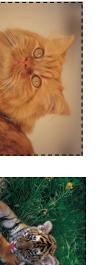
What are some facts about cats?	Cats love to rest in high places. When falling, cats are known to be able to twist their body around to land on their feet.	<b>C</b> ats sleep more than most animals sleeping between 12-16 hours per day.	Cats can see better than humans at night and can also smell better than humans.
s about cats?			

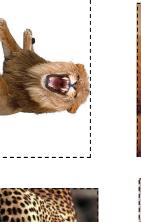
# Page one pictures—Cats

# Page three pictures—What are the different type of house cats?











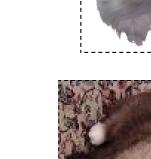
Page four pictures—What are some facts about cats?





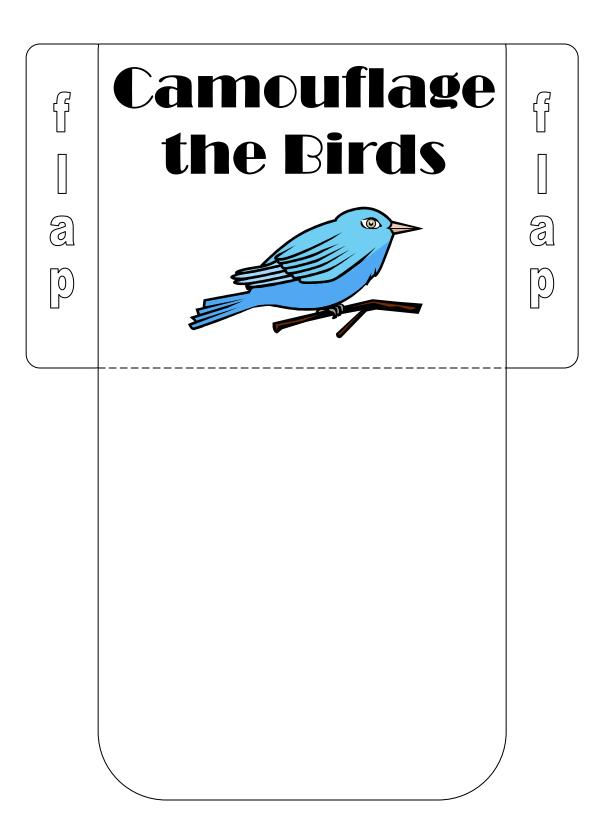








Cut pocket out as one piece. Fold back up. Wrap flaps around the back and glue down. Glue in lapbook. Cut out the "Bird" cards and laminate if desired. Store in the corresponding pocket. Play the Camouflage Game—Have child try to camouflage the birds by placing the birds on similar colors. Then you or another child can pretend to be the cat and try to find the "hidden" birds. Then reverse rolls and play the game again.





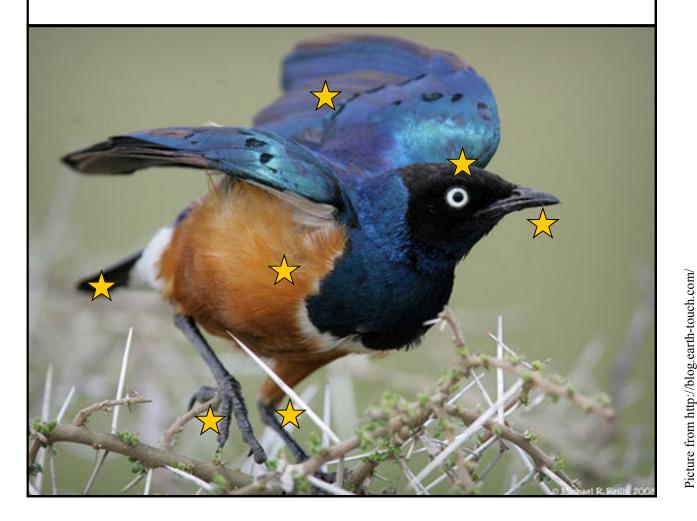


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#### **Billie Bird**

Billie bird woke up one morning when the sun was nice and bright, when she <u>ruffled up her feathers</u> she was really quite a sight. She <u>opened up her black beak and let</u> <u>out a big "tweet-tweet"</u> then she <u>hopped</u> out of her nest on her tiny bird feet. She twitched her <u>tail back and forth</u> and <u>looked up on her head</u>. Then she <u>smoothed the feathers on her crown</u> "Now I look great" she said. She was ready for a brand new day and there was very much to do. So she <u>spread her two big blue wings and then—</u> <u>away she flew</u>!

Have students do the movements that are underlined: 1. Ruffle feathers 2. Make a beak with hands and make a tweeting noise. 3. Hop around on tiptoes 4. Make a tail with hands and wag back and forth behind them 5. Look on head 6. Smooth down "crowns" on top of heads 7. Spread wings and go for a flight



ndex.php/archive/tags/bird

BODY PARTS OF A BIRD wing crown beak leg feathers

Cut out cover and past to front of book.

Cut out rectangle from page 1 and fold in half. Glue cover on next page to the front. Cut out part cards and laminate. Put magnetic tape on the stars and on the back of the part cards. To fit all the parts a few of the name cards will not have the magnetic tape centered on the back. Since most preschoolers are not reading, read the part to the child and have them put it on the corresponding part. In addition, read the story and have your child do motions to go along with it.



tail

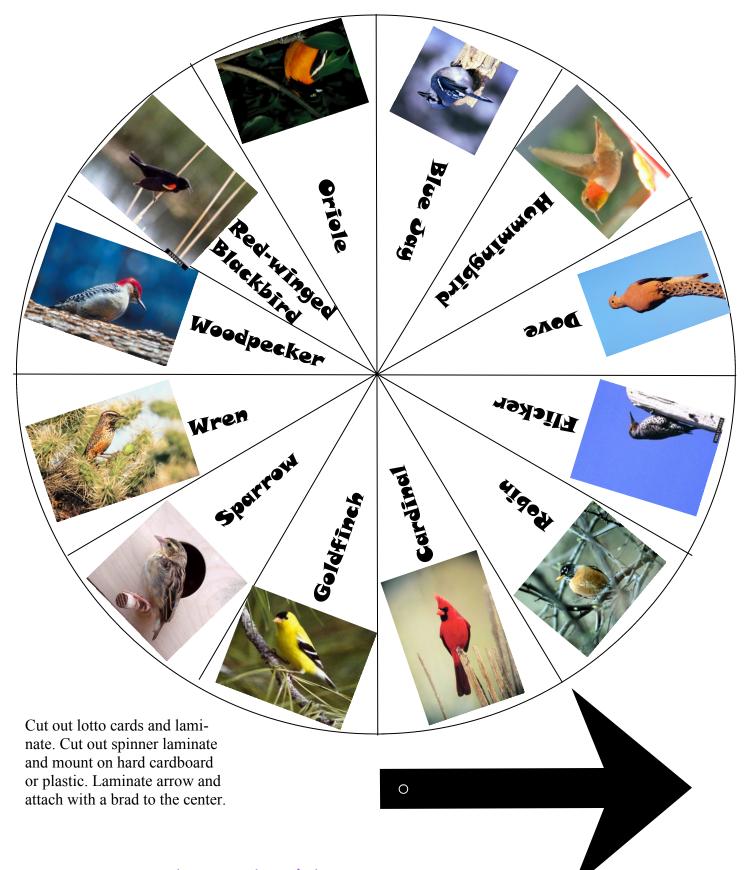
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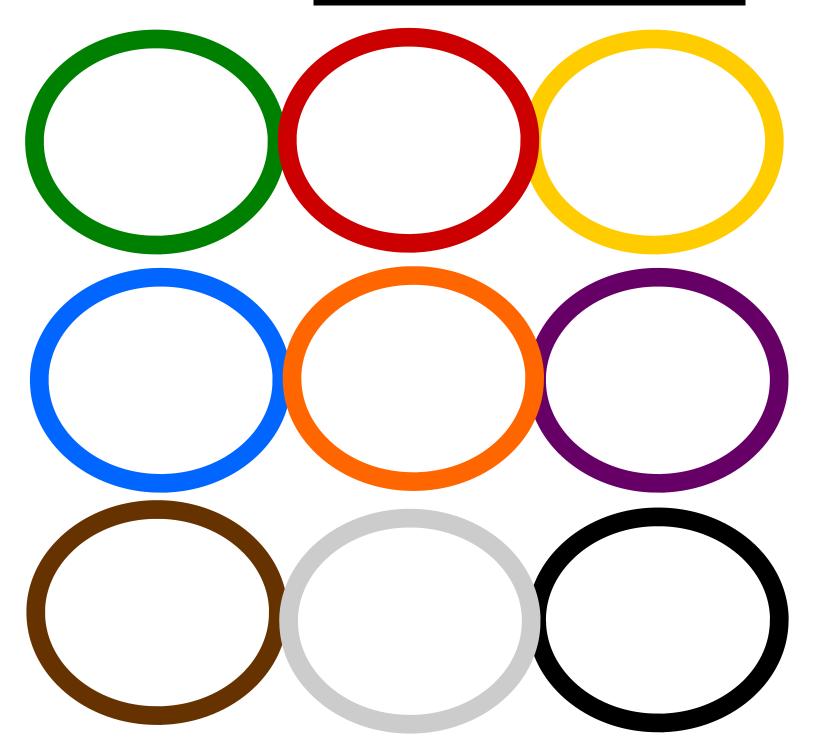


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# What color birds did

?

## you see



MATTHEW 6:26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your Heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

Cut birds out as one piece and fold at the head to make a flip-up book. Glue the back of the book to the lapbook. Cut out verse and glue on the inside of the book.

**BIBLE VERSE**