



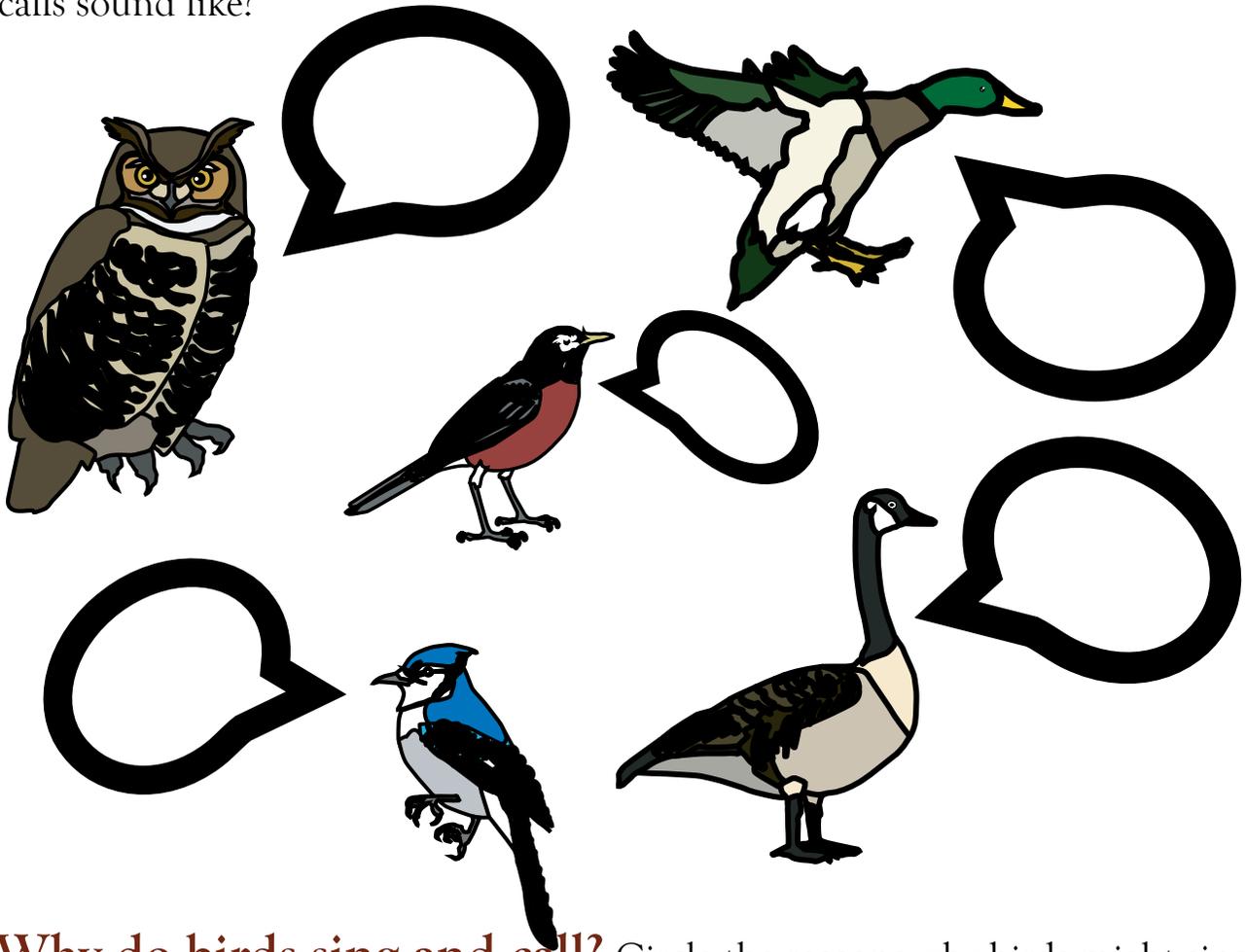
All About Birds



Quack, quack! Hoo-hoo-hoo

Bird calls are all around us. Can you hear the difference between their songs? Birds call and sing for many reasons; to attract a mate, warn other birds of a predator, or to establish territory.

Well, what do I say? See if you can name these birds. What do their calls sound like?



Why do birds sing and call? Circle the reasons why birds might sing and call.

Impress and attract a mate

Identify family members

Declare territorial boundaries

Announce the presence of a predator

Convey information about food

Answers:

Great Horned owls-Hoo-hoo-hoo-hooo-hooo

Mallards say-quack quack-quack

Blue jays say 'thief-thief'

Robins cheerily, cheer up, cheerily cheer up

Canada goose honk, honk, honk

Did you circle all the answers? You are right! Birds make sounds for all of these reasons!



How do birds learn to sing? Draw a line matching each term to its definition.

Learned skills

Inherited ability

Mimic

These birds, usually songbirds, have to **learn** how to sing their song during a “**sensitive period**”. A sensitive period is when the bird learns best, usually right after the **fledgling (or baby bird)** leaves the nest.

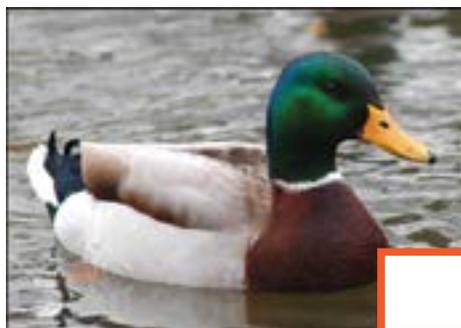
Copy the sounds and songs of different birds and animals, then use the sounds to make songs. Some birds are so good at copying different songs and sounds they can trick other animals!

Some birds are born with the **ability** to sing their species song. They inherit the ability to sing from their parent.

Can you spot these birds? Check the boxes of birds you have seen.



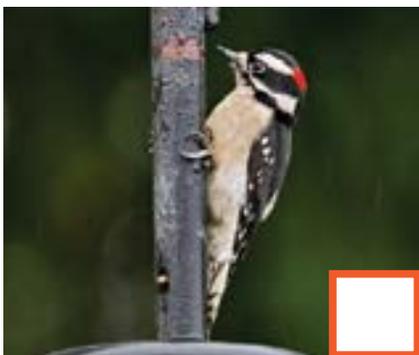
American Robin



Mallard Duck



Red-winged Black Bird



Downy Woodpecker



Canada Goose



Black-capped Chickadee

What makes birds special?

All birds have wings, beaks, feathers, and lay eggs. But which of these makes them **unique** from other animals?

Wings? No! Other animals have wings too. Can you name something else with wings?



Beaks? No! Other animals have beaks. Can you name an animal other than a bird that has a beak?



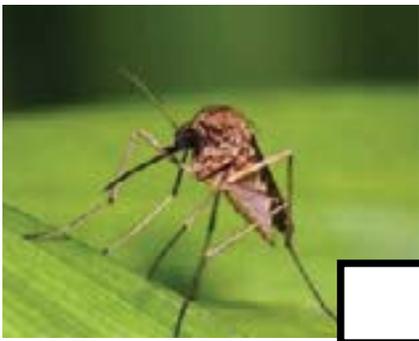
Laying eggs? No! Can you name another animal that lays eggs?



Feathers? **Yes!** Other animals have beaks, wings, and lay eggs, but **ONLY** birds have **FEATHERS!**



What do birds eat? Can you find any food for birds on your walk?



Mosquitos



Moths



Seeds



Worms



Nectar



Insect larva

Create your own bird!

Imagine that you're an ornithologist (a person who studies birds) who just discovered a new bird species. Draw your discovery in the space below. Give your bird a name and record its special characteristics.



Name of bird: _____

This bird eats _____

This bird's habitat is _____

Its call sounds like: _____

Special traits or abilities:
