

# Conduct a Backyard Bird Count

## Count the birds where you live!

### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Adult helper
- Notebook
- Pencil or pen
- Bird identification guide
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (optional)



### WHAT TO DO:

A bird count is a fun way to learn about birds. Go to your backyard, a nearby park, or another green space, and spend about 15 minutes looking for birds. (You can also conduct a bird count from a window or balcony.) Look near feeders, in trees, and soaring overhead. Remember to move slowly and avoid making too much noise.

When someone spots a bird, quietly point it out. If you recognize the kind (species) of bird, write down what you saw. If you do not know the type of bird, simply take a photograph of it or draw a sketch. (It doesn't have to be perfect, just enough to help with identification.) Make notes about the bird's appearance, color, and size.

When you finish bird-watching, check your field guide or search online. Try to identify all the birds that you didn't recognize.

### REMEMBER TO LISTEN:

Sometimes you will hear a bird, but you might not see it. You can still add it to your count. If you recognize the bird call, add that bird to your list. If you don't know the call, note what you hear. For example, an American Goldfinch might sound like "po-ta-to-chip!"

When you finish bird-watching, search online for bird calls. You can listen to recordings of birds at websites like All About Birds ([allaboutbirds.org](http://allaboutbirds.org)). That might help you figure it out.

*Continued on the next page.*



[AdventureWithKeen.com](http://AdventureWithKeen.com)

# Conduct a Backyard Bird Count (continued)

## SHARE YOUR RESULTS:

Consider setting up an account on a citizen science website like eBird (ebird.org). There, you can create a “life list” to keep track of all the birds you see throughout your life. Plus, your work will contribute to science. Your information will help scientists and bird-watchers around the world learn more about where birds are and where they go over time.

## DO IT AGAIN:

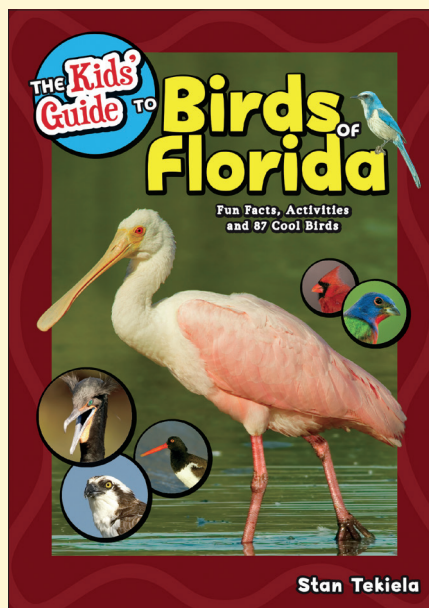
This is a fun activity to repeat. Try it at different times of day. Predict when you will see the most birds: morning, afternoon, or evening. What else do you observe? Are certain birds only present at certain times? Are some birds never seen with other birds? Keep track of all the details. You could learn a lot about the different behaviors of birds!

## THE KIDS' GUIDE TO BIRDS OF FLORIDA:

Stan Tekiela's bestselling *Birds of Florida Field Guide* has delighted bird-watchers for years. Now, the award-winning author has written the perfect bird identification guide for children!

### BOOK FEATURES

- The most common and important Florida birds to know
- Species organized by color for quick and easy identification
- Full-color photographs and a full page of information for each bird
- Field marks, favorite hangouts, range maps, Stan's cool facts and more
- BONUS: Fun activities for the whole family to enjoy



**The perfect introduction to bird identification for a new generation.**