Vocabulary – Birds

aviary	a large enclosure for confining birds that still allows them to fly freely
beak	a structure on a bird's head used for eating, grooming, manipulating objects, fighting, killing prey, courting other birds, probing for food and feeding young
bill	another name for a bird's beak; can also be called a rostrum; made of bone covered by a hard keratin shell
bird	a warm-blooded, egg-laying feathered vertebrate with forelimbs modified to form wings
brood	a group of young birds hatched at one time and cared for together
chick	one of the young of any bird, but more commonly used when referring to chickens
covey	a family or small flock of birds; especially a partridge or quail

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egg	an oval or round object from which a baby bird is born
feather	one of the light, flat growths forming the covering of birds; made of lots of skinny closely arranged straight barbs that form on either side of a hollow shaft
flock	a group of birds who are living, looking for food or in flight together
incubate	to keep an egg warm so that a chick will still develop inside it if it is no longer inside the body of an adult female bird
migration	the regular seasonal movement of birds, often north and south between breeding and wintering locations
nest	the spot where a bird lays and incubates its eggs, as well as raises its young; doesn't always look like the grassy cup-shaped object most think of, but can be made of different materials and come in many shapes and sizes
ornithologist	a person who studies birds

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talon	the claw of a bird of prey; used as its primary hunting tool
vertebrate	an animal with a backbone; birds are vertebrates
warm-blooded	keeping a relatively warm and constant body temperature; does not change with environment
wing	either of the two forelimbs of most birds; used for flight

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