

# Chickens

There are more than 24 billion chickens in the world. There are more chickens in the world than any other bird.

Chickens are omnivores. They eat both seeds and insects. They may live to be between five and ten years old.

Male chickens are called roosters. They have longer tails and pointy feathers on their necks. Most roosters have larger wattles and combs than the females. Roosters are known for crowing.

Female chickens are called hens. They begin laying eggs when they are around 18 to 22 weeks old. Hens can lay up to one egg a day. When chickens sit on their eggs in order to help the eggs grow and hatch, it is called brooding. After 21 days, the eggs will hatch.

Did you know that chickens have a good memory? They can learn their name and recognize faces of people.



# Bald Eagle

Bald eagles are a bird found in North America. They live in most of Canada and Alaska and all of the contiguous United States. The bald eagle can also be found in northern Mexico. They live near open water in areas that have a large supply of food and old trees which are good for nesting.

These birds grow to be between 28 and 40 inches long. Their wingspan is between 5.9 and 7.5 feet wide and they weigh between 6.6 and 14 pounds. In the wild, they can live to be around 20 years old.

Their diet includes many different animals. The most common food this bird eats is fish. Bald eagles also eat other water birds and sometimes reptiles.

Bald eagles build large nests that can be up to 13 feet deep and 8.2 feet wide. Bald eagles usually lay between 1 and 3 eggs per year. Both the mom and dad take care of the eggs and the babies once they have hatched.

Did you know the bald eagle is the national bird of the United States of America?



# Cooper's Hawk

Cooper's hawks are known as being skillful fliers. They live in woodland areas throughout the United States. They can also be found in more populated areas as well.

These birds have rounded wings and a long tail with a large head. Cooper's hawks are a steely blue-gray with reddish lines underneath and dark brown stripes on the tail. They will grow to be between 14.6 and 15.4 inches long. Their wingspan can be from 24.4 to 35.4 inches wide.

Cooper's hawks eat mostly birds and small mammals. These include robins, jays, chipmunks, mice and bats. They will eat reptiles and insects.

They construct their nest from sticks. The nest size is about 27 inches in diameter. Their nests are built in pines, oaks, beeches and other trees and are usually found 25 to 50 feet above the ground.

The female lays between 1 and 7 eggs at a time but between 3 and 5 eggs are the most common clutch. The eggs are pale blue to bluish white and between 1.7 and 2 inches long.

Did you know that baby Cooper's Hawks are able to fly about 4 to 5 weeks after hatching?





# Long-Eared Owl

Long-eared owls are a type of owl that lives in Europe, Asia and North America.

They have blackish ear-tufts that are meant to make the owl appear larger to other owls. They have dark colored or rusty-orange eyes. These owls grow to be 31 to 40 centimeters long. They have a wingspan that can spread between 86 and 100 cm wide. The long-eared owl weighs between 6.3 and 15.3 ounces.

Long-eared owls nest in trees. They often live in forests that are close to open land. Many times they will take over the nest of other birds including the nests of crows, ravens and magpies.

These owls lay between 4 and 6 eggs at a time. This group of eggs is called a clutch of eggs. The eggs will hatch in about 25 to 30 days.

In the winter, these owls migrate to a slightly warmer region close by.

These animals eat mostly rodents, small mammals and birds. They are nocturnal animals so they do much of their hunting at night.



# Cardinal



Cardinals are birds that live in North and South America. They are easily identified due to their bright red color. Some people refer to them as "redbirds".

Despite the nickname, not all cardinals are red! The male birds are red. The female cardinals are a dark cream or tan color.

They are a type of songbird that sings about two dozen different songs. Both the male and female birds sing.

Cardinals grow to be 4.7 to 9.8 inches long. They weigh between .40 and 2.99 ounces. This is about the size of a tea cup.

These birds typically live in open woodlands. These areas have large amounts of sunlight and smaller amounts of shade. Trees in woodlands are not close together. They do not migrate in the winter like many other birds.

Cardinals eat seeds, grain, fruit and sap from trees. They have strong bills.

Did you know that cardinals are the state bird of seven U.S. states?



# Black-Capped Chickadee

Chickadees are often identified for their call that sounds like chickadee-dee-dee. They can be found in the northern half of the United States and the southern half of Canada. This species of chickadee does not migrate

These birds are black on the top of their head and their neck. They have white cheeks and a gray back. Their wings are gray with white edges. They grow to be between 4.7 and 5.9 inches long. Their wingspan can be between 6.3 and 8.3 inches wide. This bird weights between .3 and .5 ounces.

Black-capped chickadees eat seeds, berries and other plant matter. They also eat insects, spiders and suet. They are known for storing seeds and other foods to eat later.

Black-capped chickadees often live in flocks. They tend to live in areas with trees or woody shrubs. They can be found in forests, parks and residential neighborhoods. Black-capped chickadees nest in trees, making a cavity in dead trees or rotten branches.





# Red-Headed Woodpecker

Woodpeckers are found throughout the world. They live in all areas except Australia, New Zealand, Madagascar and the polar regions. These birds often live in forests or woodlands. There are many different types of woodpeckers. One type is the red-headed woodpecker.

This woodpecker has a bright red head, a white body and dark black wings. It lives in the northern 2/3 of North America.

Woodpeckers often catch their food by hammering at wood to find insects. Red-headed woodpeckers also catch their food by catching insects in flight and finding insects on the ground. Along with insects, these woodpeckers eat fruit and seeds. This species of woodpecker is one of the few known to store food in cracks in wood, fence posts and under shingles.

Red-headed woodpeckers nest in holes they create in dead trees or dead parts of a tree.

These birds lay between three and ten white eggs at a time. The eggs are about one inch long and take between 12 and 14 days to hatch.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Digging up the Answers**

Look in the texts to find the answers.

Which bird is known to have a good memory?	
Which bird is the national bird of the United States?	
Which bird likes to build a nest high off of the ground?	
Which bird has blackish ear tufts to make the bird appear bigger?	
Which bird is the state bird of seven U.S. states?	
Which bird is known for the black on the top of its head and its back?	
Which bird is known to store food in cracks in fence pots?	



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Activating Schema

What facts do you know  
about birds?

Focus on: Birds

Can you name  
any types of birds?

List places where  
you might see birds.

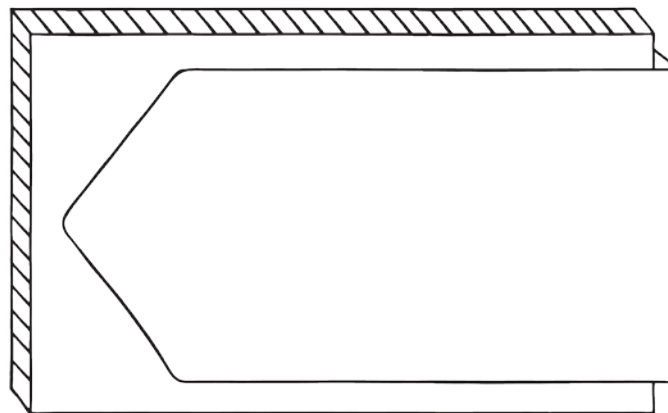
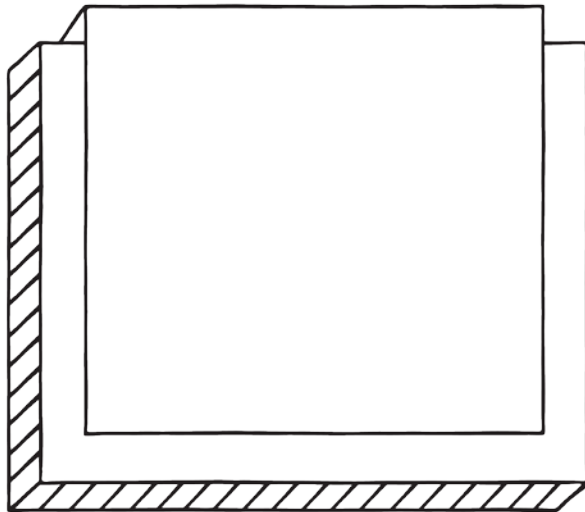
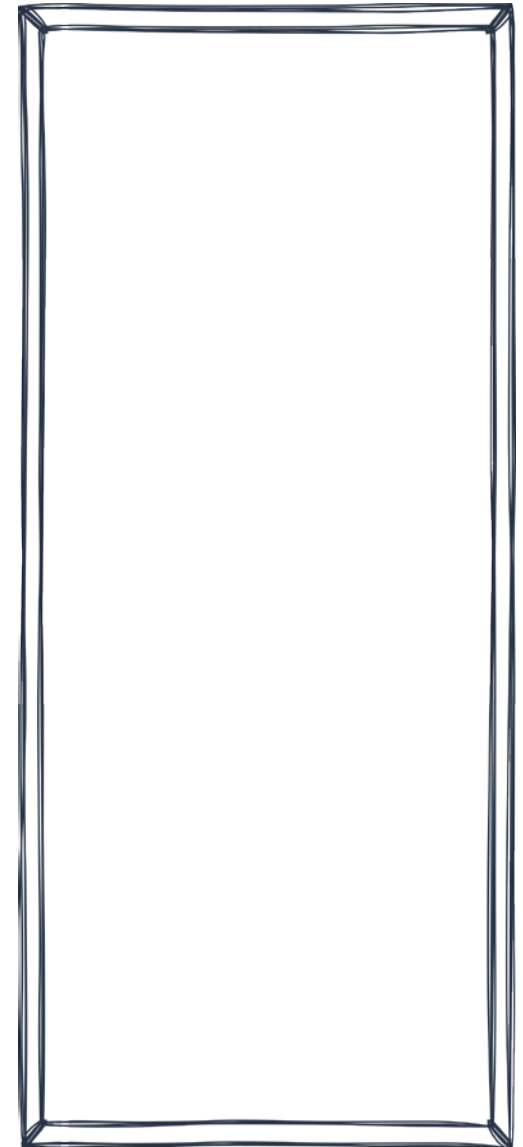
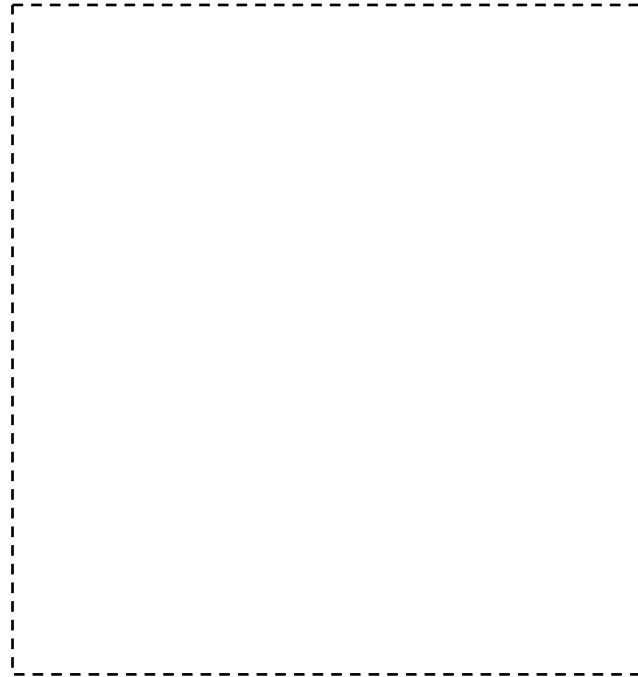
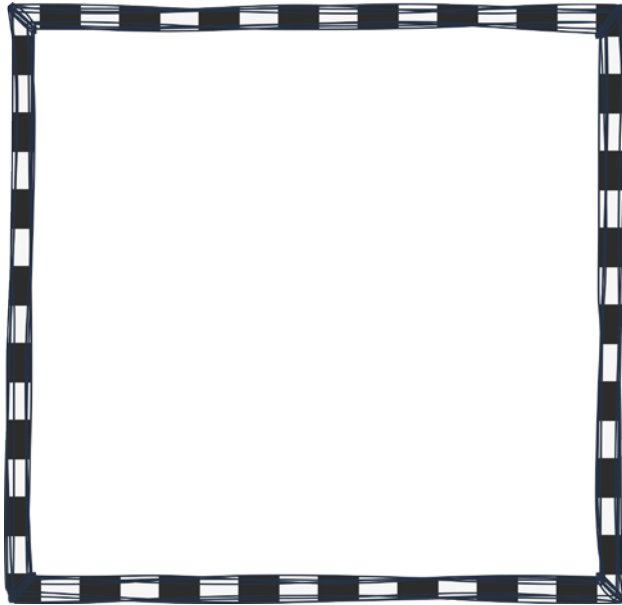
Do you know what  
birds eat?

What else can you share?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

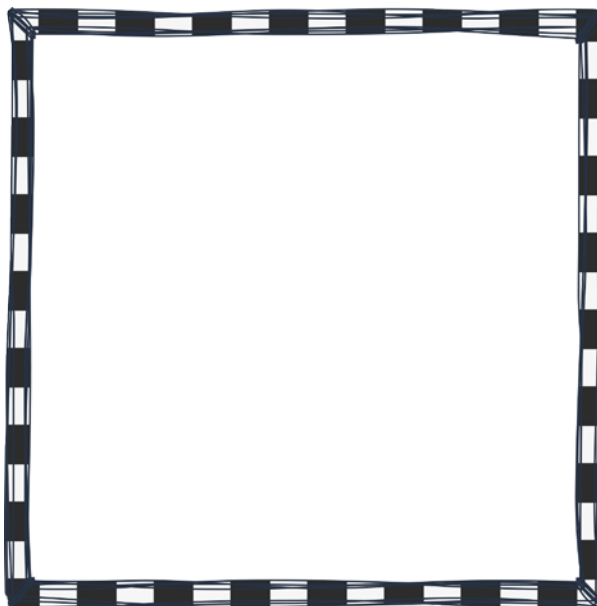
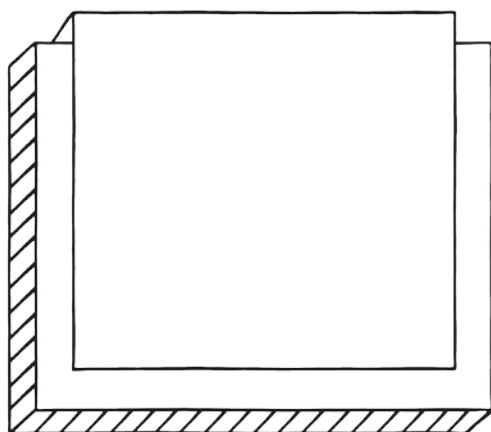
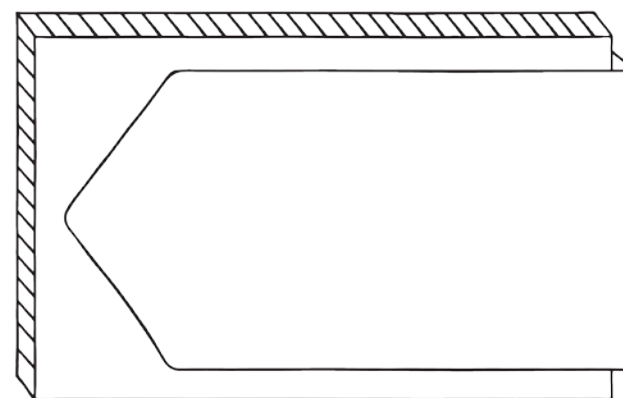

# Activating Schema

Focus on: Birds



Name:

**Focus on:**



Name:

# Doodle Notes

As you read, record words and pictures that help you remember what you read.



Name:

**Focus on:**

--

What is something  
you already know?

--

What is something  
you are curious  
about?

--

Do you know any  
experts who could  
help you learn?

--

Where could you  
look to find out  
more?

--

Name:

**Focus on:**

## **Fact & Opinion**

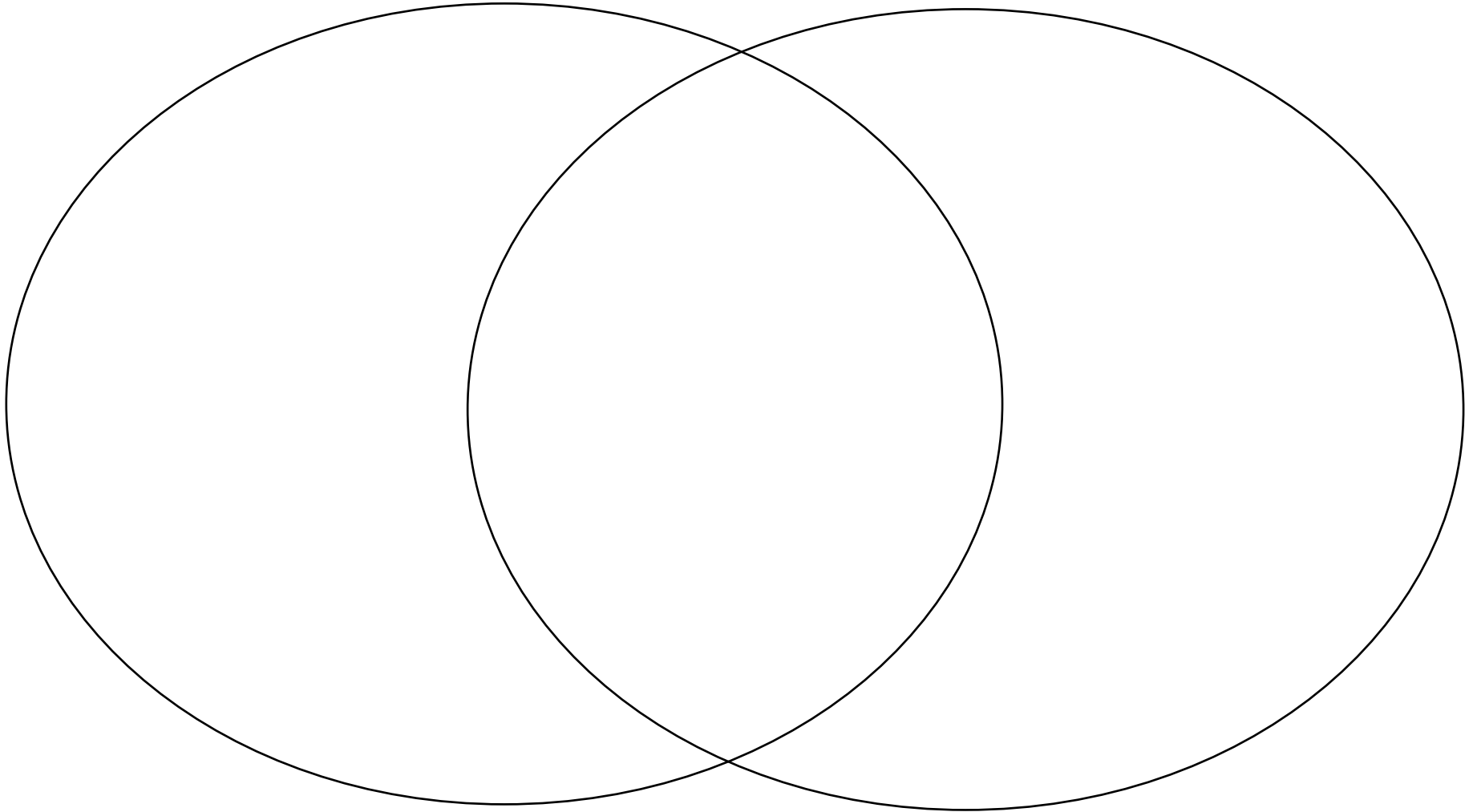
Facts about my focus	Opinions about my focus

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Focus on:**

**&**

## **Comparing & Contrasting**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Focus on:**

**&**

## **Comparing & Contrasting**

What is something that makes these two birds similar?

What is a difference between these two birds?

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Name:

**Focus on:**

**are**

**look livke**

**live**

**eat**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Breaking Down the Topic

**Focus on:**

--

Nouns about the topic	Verbs about the topic	Adjectives about the topic

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Vocabulary

Focus on:

--

new word	meaning	picture

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Word Map

My word is:

Meaning

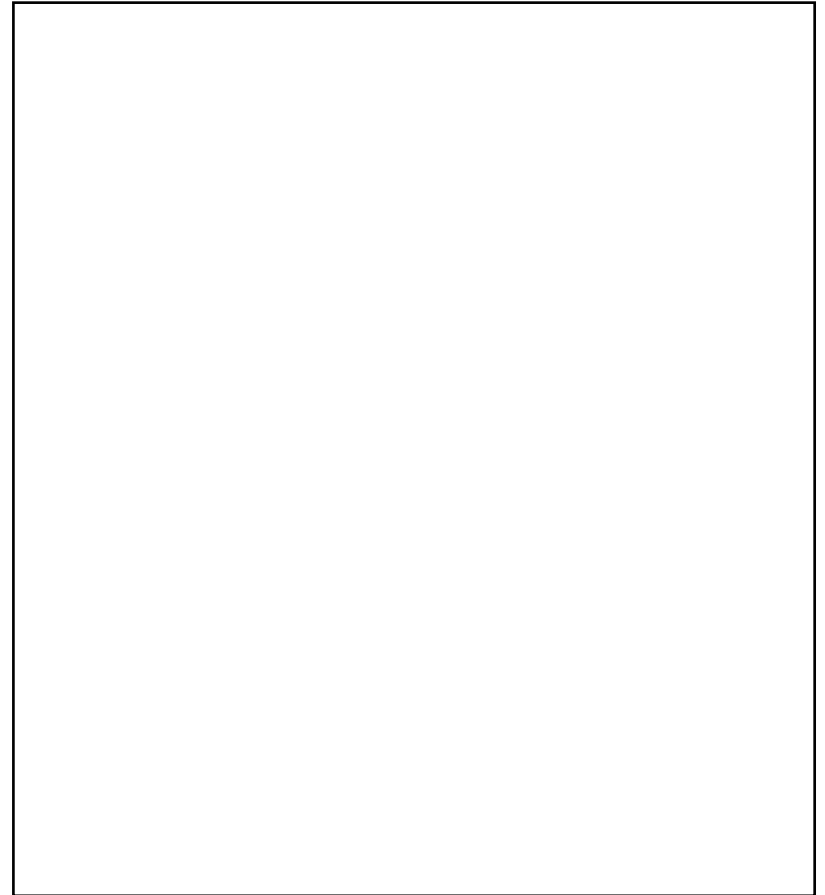
Synonyms

Show the meaning of the word.

Use the word in a sentence.



# **My Bird Encyclopedia**



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bird:**

This is  
what the  
bird  
looks  
like.

**3 facts I learned**


**Bird:**

This is  
what the  
bird  
looks  
like.

**3 facts I learned**


**Bird:**

This is  
what the  
bird  
looks  
like.



**3 facts I learned**

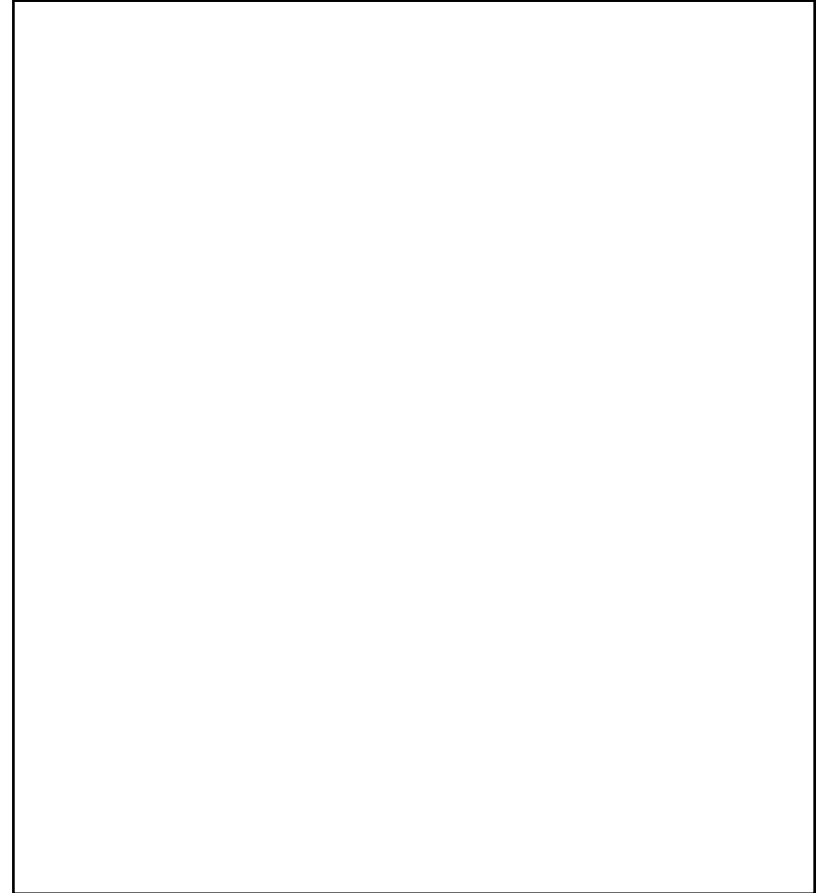

**Bird:**

This is  
what the  
bird  
looks  
like.



**3 facts I learned**


# All About...



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Diet

Show the diet.

Write about the diet.

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## Habitat

Show the habitat.

Write about the habitat.

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## Size

Show the size.

Write about the size.

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## Eggs

Show the nest, eggs or babies.

Write about the nest, eggs or babies.

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