

Blue Jay

The Blue Jay is a common backyard bird in North America. It has a pronounced crest which may be raised or lowered according to the bird's mood. Its plumage is blue in the crest, back, wings and tail. Its face is white. The underside is off-white and neck is collared with black. The tail is barred with black, blue and white. The bill, legs and eyes are all black.



See colors
and learn more





KneeHigh Naturalist
Sac County Conservation

Songbirds Kit



Songbird Craft

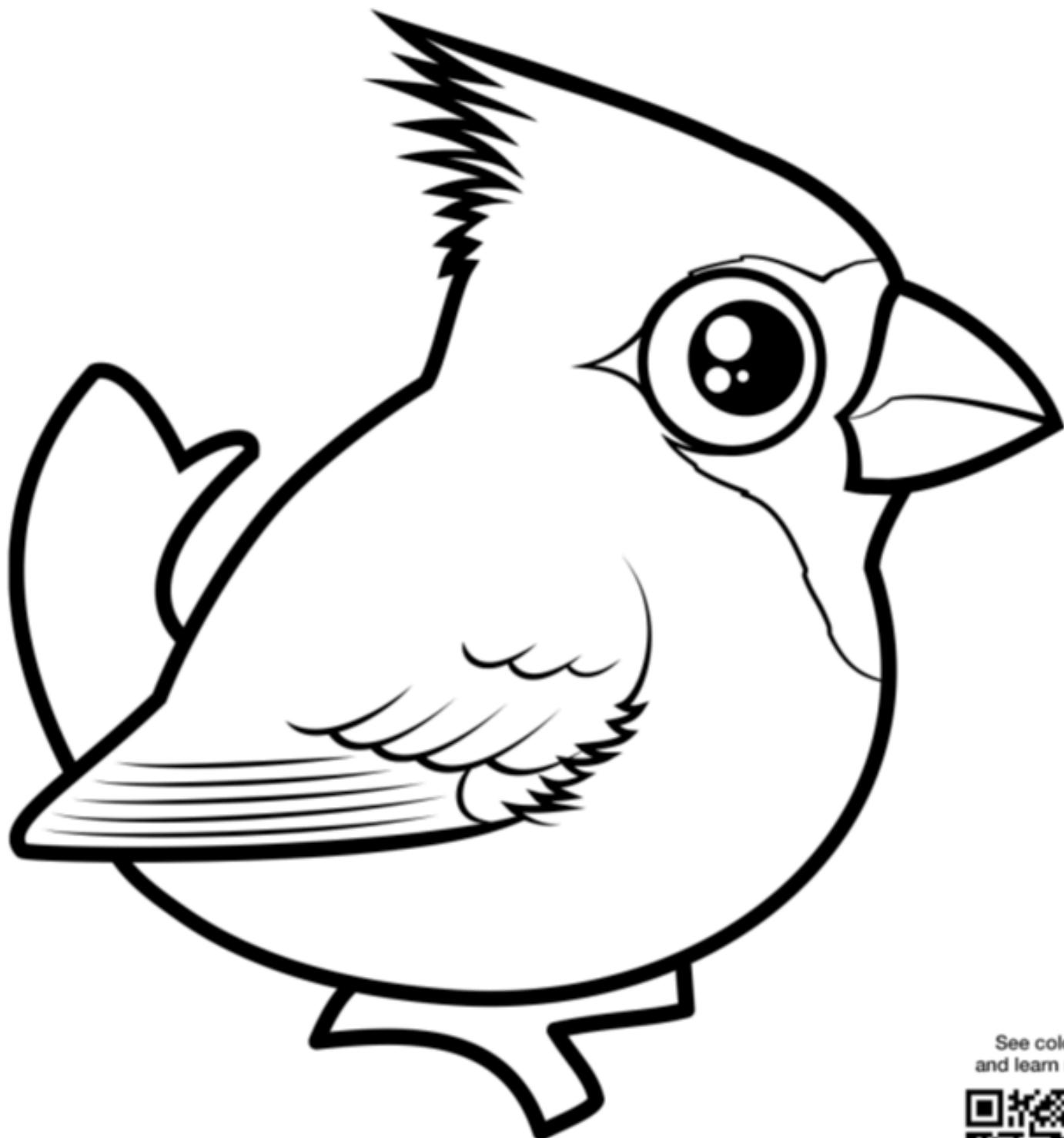
Create your own bird feeder!

Use the thing of white stuff, which is called Lard (Pork Fat) as edible glue. Fill your pine with lard and then carefully (perhaps outside) stuff your pinecone with birdseed. Then find a place outside to set it. See who comes to visit!

Helpful hint: Lard removal from your hands is best done with warm water. It will make it "melt" off your hands.

Northern Cardinal

The Northern Cardinal is a common mid-sized songbird across the eastern United States. Males are brilliant red with a black face. The female is mostly grayish brown with a slight reddish tint on the wings. The bill is red and the feet are a dark pink-brown.



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Songbird Activity

Head outside!

Can you find a rainbow of birds?



NORTHERN CARDINAL

BALTIMORE ORIOLE



AMERICAN GOLDFINCH

EUROPEAN STARLING



BLUE JAY

PURPLE FINCH





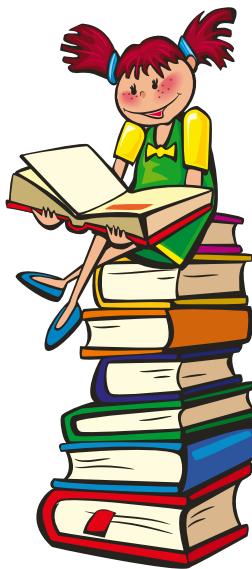
Little Bird Little Bird

SUNG TO: "TWINKLE, TWINKLE, LITTLE STAR"

**LITTLE BIRD, LITTLE BIRD, FLY AROUND,
UP TO THE SKY, DOWN TO THE GROUND.
LITTLE BIRD, LITTLE BIRD, FLAP YOUR
WINGS.**

**OPEN YOUR BEAK AND SWEETLY SING.
LITTLE BIRD, LITTLE BIRD, FLY TO YOUR
NEST.**

NOW IT IS TIME TO TAKE A REST.



Suggested Reading

Birds
Kevin Henkes

Bird Watch
Christie Matheson

About Birds
Cathryn Sill



North America's
Smallest Songbird

MALES WILL PUFF UP
THE FEATHERS
ON THEIR HEADS
WHEN EXCITED.

Migratory

Some species of birds will migrate south to Iowa for the winter!



MINE
MINE
MINE

1/2 WORLDS BIRDS

Please
Keep Your
Cats Inside
Cats kill over 2.4
billion birds a year in
the US

4,000+
species

SONGS ARE LEARNED.

Howdy

SONGBIRDS CAN HAVE
REGIONAL DIALECTS.
JUST LIKE PEOPLE HAVE ACCENTS.



SYRNIX

Songbird voicebox.

Songs tell other
birds to stay
out of their
space! Also for
boy birds it's to
try to get a
girlfriend.

Which
is why

Sing Feathers 1,500+

Dark-Eyed Junco



Some can sing two
notes at once

Call
ALERTS OTHER
BIRDS TO DANGER!

Songbirds

Warm Blooded

Make Their Own Body Heat



**Catbirds are
named from
their meow
like call**

But they
will also
mimic the
sounds
other
birds
make!



Did you
know?
Crows are
songbirds

Birds have hollow
bones so they can fly



LIGHT WEIGHT

Most songbirds weigh the
same as about 28 paper clips!



Big Songbirds like a Blue Jay
might weigh up to 85 paperclips
or 1.5 tennis balls



1/2

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Ravens are the biggest
songbirds in North
America and are about
the size of a Red Tailed
Hawk



Can sing
more notes
than a
piano



They breathe
30 breaths a
second!



Black Capped Chickadees
will clear out old
memories of where they
hid seeds to make room
for new memories.

Northern Cardinal



BOYS & GIRLS

Many species of birds
the boys will be bright
colors and the girls will
be brown to blend in
with their nests.

**Brown-headed
Cowbirds**
will lay their eggs in the
nest of other birds.

NESTS

Are usually made in
the spring time to
hold eggs. They can
be made out of grass,
twigs, mud and
plants.



Eggs are different colors,
shapes, and sizes
depending on the type
bird that lays them.



2-10 eggs

per nest

What's For Lunch?

Songbirds have different kinds of beaks to
eat a variety of things.



Information from: Cornell Lab of Ornithology