

# THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT BIRDS



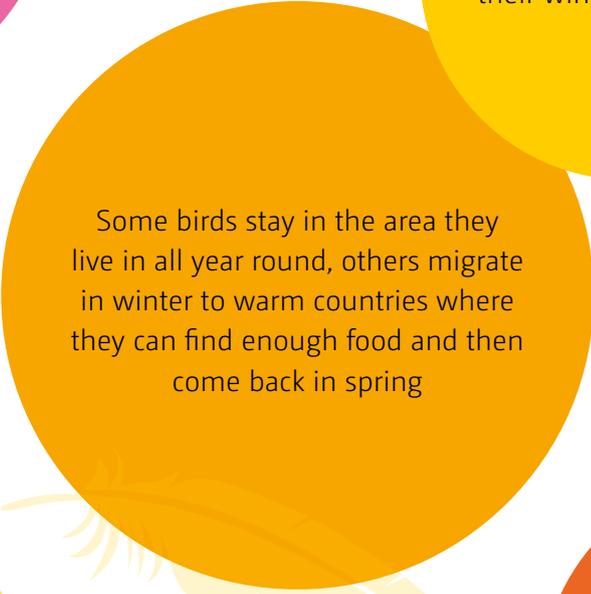
**BIRDS**



They are often on the ground or in trees looking for food



Birds can fly thanks to their wings and feathers



Some birds stay in the area they live in all year round, others migrate in winter to warm countries where they can find enough food and then come back in spring



Birds build nests and lay eggs on which they then brood until the young hatch



They can hold and break down their food with their bill



Each species has a specific way of communicating and we can tell birds apart by their songs

# BLACKBIRD



## SHORT PROFILE

### Size

23 – 29 cm

### Look

males are black with a yellow bill, females are brown

### Behaviour

hopping on the ground looking for worms, are not very shy

### Habitat

forests, parks, gardens

### Food

earthworms, insects, snails, berries, fruits

### Observation

the singing can be heard from February to June

# BLUE TIT

BIRDS



## SHORT PROFILE

### Size

11,5 cm

### Look

blue wings and tail feathers, bright yellow breast, small beak

### Behaviour

they often climb on branches in search of insects, like to take nest boxes for their nests

### Habitat

broadleaf and mixed forests, gardens

### Food

insects, larvae, spiders, grains

### Observation

can be seen and heard all year round

# SPOTTED WOODPECKER

BIRDS



## SHORT PROFILE

### Size

23 – 26 cm tall

### Look

black and white wings, dark beak and a light belly, red tail and head

### Behaviour

known for „hammering“ on trees

### Habitat

deciduous and coniferous forests, large gardens and parks

### Food

insects and larvae in wood, soft fruits, spruce and pine seeds

### Observation

can be seen and heard all year round

# HOUSE SPARROW



## SHORT PROFILE

### Size

14 – 16 cm tall

### Look

grey/brown feathers with light stripes

### Behaviour

likes to live together with other birds

### Habitat

in all human settlements

### Food

grains, buds, seeds

### Observation

can be seen all year round

# EUROPEAN ROBIN



## SHORT PROFILE

### Size

12 – 14 cm large

### Look

orange breast and throat

### Behaviour

are often near beds and not particularly shy

### Habitat

woods, gardens, parks

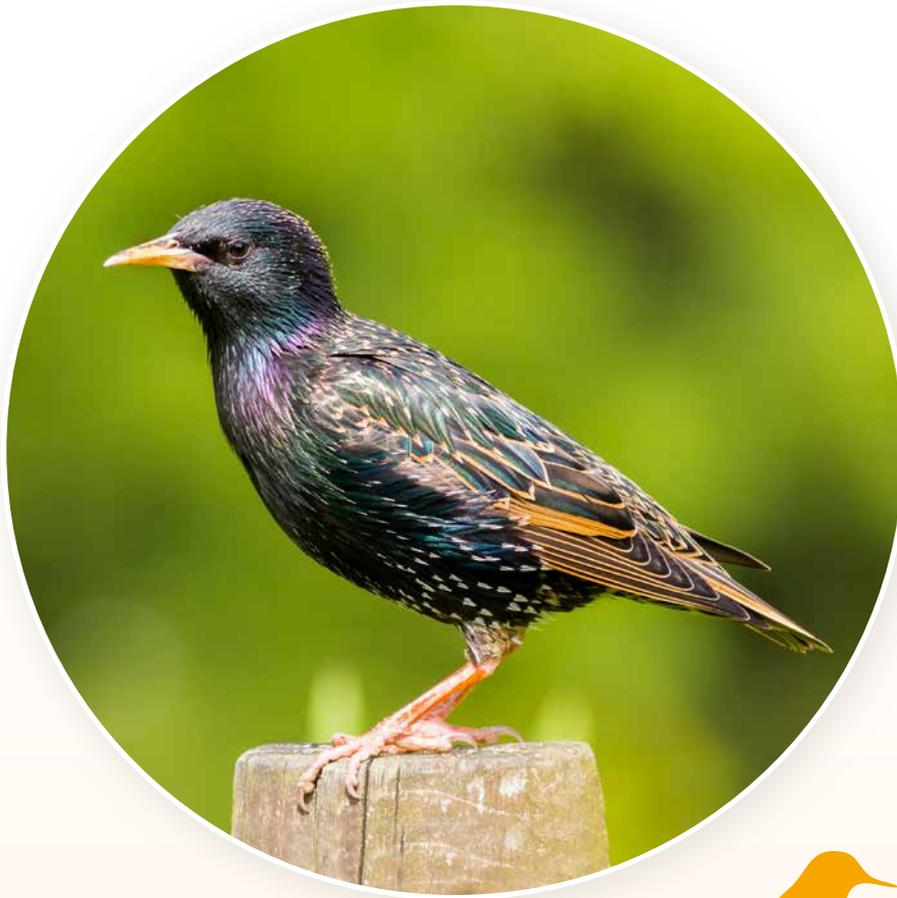
### Food

insects, spiders, worms, snails, berries

### Observation

sometimes robins move shorter distances to warmer areas in winter

# STARLING BIRD



## SHORT PROFILE

### Size

19 – 20 cm

### Look

black plumage with a slight greenish-purple sheen, light white spots

### Behaviour

often together with other starlings in larger flocks

### Habitat

gardens, woods, near meadows

### Food

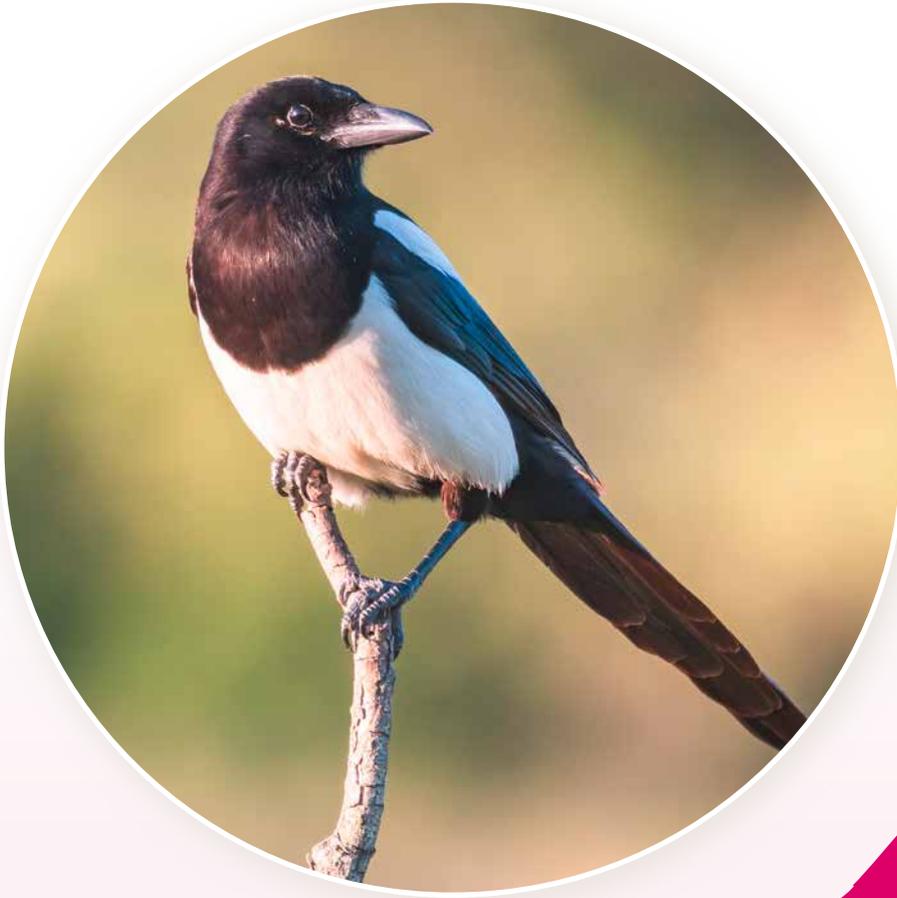
insects, fruit

### Observation

they spend the winter in warmer areas of Europe



# EUROPEAN MAGPIE



## SHORT PROFILE

### Size

40 – 50 cm tall

### Look

white/black feathers

### Behaviour

intelligent and curious animals

### Habitat

in fields, gardens, parks

### Food

earthworms, seeds, berries, fruits

### Observation

in winter they can be seen in larger groups  
near their roosts

# FINGER GAME BIRDHOUSE

AGE: from 2 years



## PLAY IDEA:

Talking together.  
The appropriate hand  
movements are written in cursive.

It's getting cold outside  
*rub your hands over your upper arms*  
and white snow will fall soon.  
*Move your fingers slowly, moving them from top to bottom*  
The birds fly back and forth  
*Spread your arms and let them fly*  
and soon find no more food.  
*Hold your hands searchingly over your eyes*

Come, let's build a house  
*Fingertips of both hands form a pointed roof*  
and scatter food in it,  
*With our fingers we scatter „food“*  
for our dear flock of birds,  
Just like last year.



# FINGER GAME – TWO BIRDS ON THE ROOF

Age: from 2 years



## GAME IDEA:

Talking together. The appropriate hand movements are written in cursive.

There are two birds sitting on the roof  
*2 fingers are on the edge of the table*

One flies away

*one finger flies away*

the other flew away

*the other finger flies away*

one came back

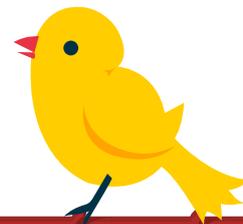
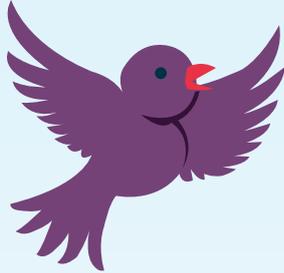
*one finger rests on the edge of the table again*

the other one came again

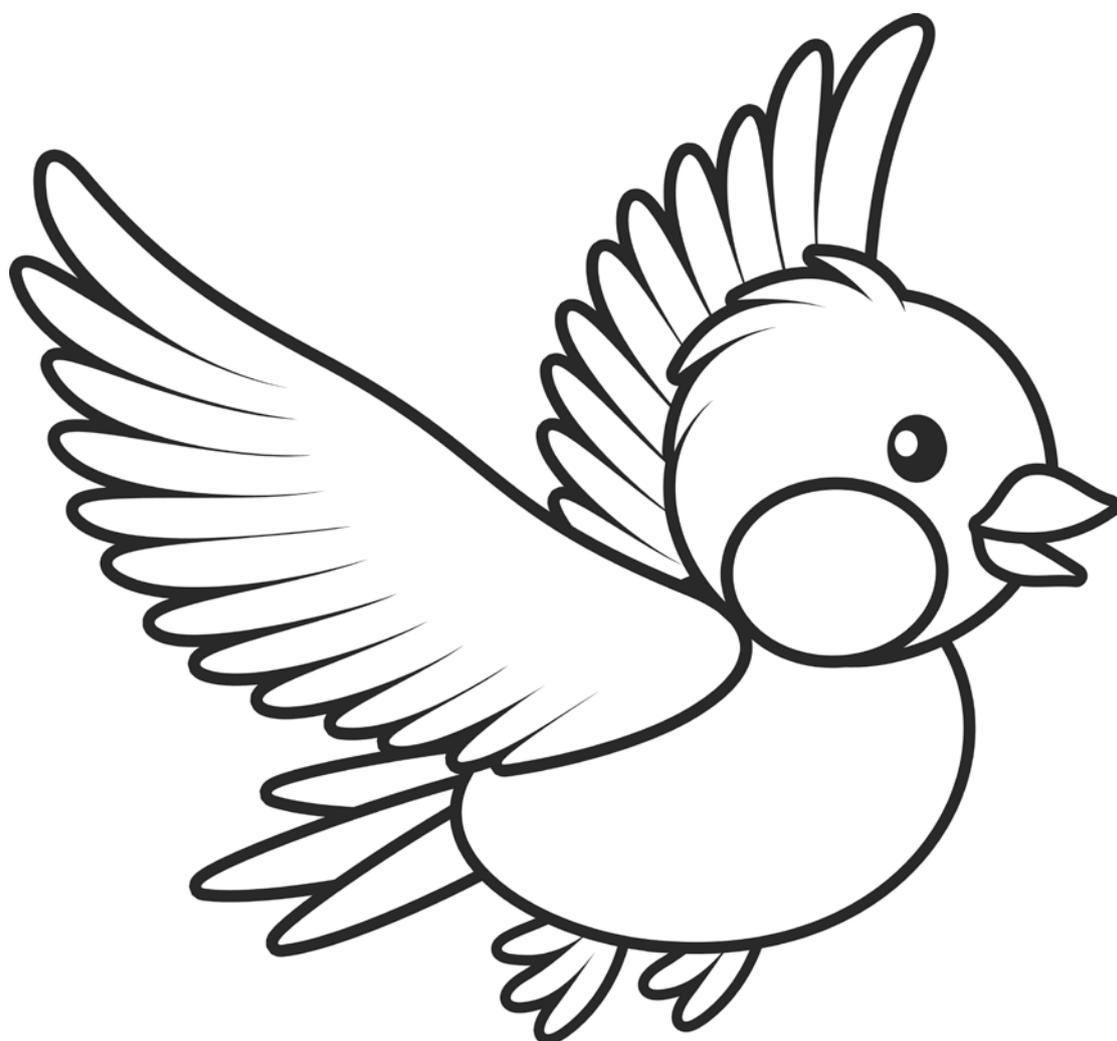
*the other finger joins it*

there they both sit again!

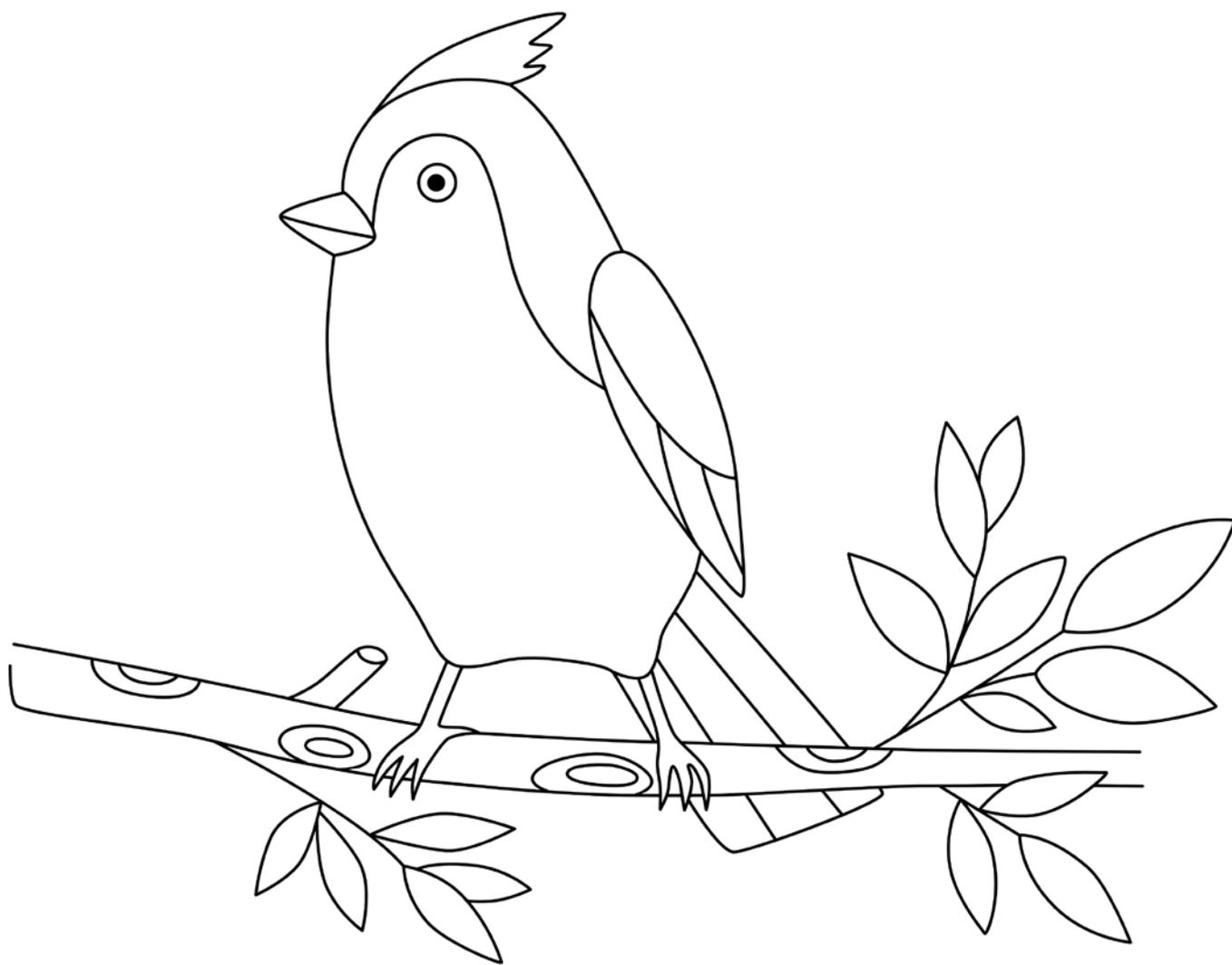
*both fingers lie on the edge of the table*



# COLOURING PICTURE



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# COUNTING GUIDE

for garden birds



Ready to count? This is the right way to do it: Write down the **highest** number of each bird species that you see **at the same time**.

## Counting example:

This is what a week could look like. Fill in the number of blue tits you have seen.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	4	0	3	5



Blue Tit

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri



House Sparrow

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri



Spotted Woodpecker

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri



European Robin

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri



European Magpie

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri



Blackbird

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri



Starling Bird

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri