

Is it a songbird? A dove? A hummingbird? There are many different types of birds! Don't worry their shapes can help tell them apart. **Let's try to identify the birds in your backyard.** 

Find a good spot where you can sit and quietly watch the bird that are in your backyard. You can watch birds for as little as 15 minutes or longer if you wish.

Print the bird tally form (below) before getting started.

## Use these simple tips to help you count the birds!

- Count all the birds you see and enter your data into your printed bird tally form.
- Try not to count moving birds twice.
- Don't worry about identifying the birds but if you know the local names of the birds write them in the table too.
- You can add write down additional notes about the birds you see to help you identify the birds by species.

Here are a few bird groups you might see as you explore your backyard.



## Bird Tally Form

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Group name (e.g. dove)	Local name	Tally	Tota

Total number of individual birds in my backyard: \_\_\_\_\_\_

## My Bird Notes

\*It may be useful to print more than one copy

Where was it? (on the ground, at a feeder, on a tree, on the ground, soaring or flying):

What were the colours of the bird?:

Did you notice any patterns on the bird? (look at its head, breast and belly):

Use the space below to draw the bird and take additional notes:

With this information, you have a good chance of identifying your bird with the use a bird field guide. Your local environmental groups will have copies that you can use and members that can help you identify the birds in your backyard!