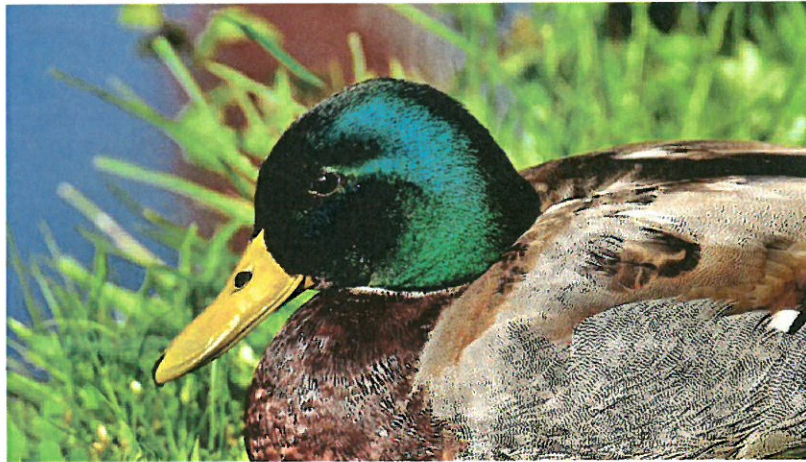


# Noble County Mini 4-H



# Wildlife



## Mini 4-H Helper's page

Welcome to the Mini 4-H Program! Mini 4-H is designed for children in grades K-2 to explore a variety of project activity areas and to interact with caring adults and other children.

Children receive this project activity manual when they enroll in Mini 4-H. This manual and the manuals on various other topics will provide fun, age-appropriate learning activities throughout their year(s) in Mini 4-H.

As a Mini 4-H adult helper, your job will be to guide and encourage each child through the activities. A wide range of activities is provided to allow you to choose the ones most appropriate for the children you are working with. It is strongly suggested that you do not complete the activities for them, instead help them, guide them, work with them and let them do all that they possibly can. 4-H believes in allowing children to learn by doing. The Mini 4-H project activities are hands-on learning opportunities designed to provide a meaningful educational experience for youth.

Additionally, the Mini 4-H program is set up to allow children to display a project activity that is based upon information in this manual. Some children may want to exhibit at the 4-H Fair. The 4-H Fair is an exciting week that allows community youth to showcase their enthusiasm for learning. Children may choose to display a project activity they did by themselves or one they did with a group. Other children may choose to showcase their work in other ways, such as displaying it in a special place in their own home.

Mini 4-H is fun! Children will certainly enjoy it. You can have fun too, by guiding and helping as children participate in the program. Encourage and praise the children as they have fun learning and sharing with you. If you have any questions regarding Mini 4-H or other 4-H programs, please contact the Extension Office in your county.



## Helper's Tips

The Mini 4-H Program can be used with individual children, but it works best when used in a group of 2 or more children. Children working cooperatively in groups develop positive images of themselves and their ideas. Other ways adult helpers can maximize the benefits of Mini 4-H are to:

- **Work on a subject interesting to the child by encouraging children to choose the content area.** Look through this manual and choose the project activities based on the interests and skill levels of the children
- **Relax and have fun.** Some children will want to finished their activities, others may not. There is no need to pressure children of this age to finish an activity, because the real learning takes place while they participate in the activity and interact with others. The finished project should not be the main focus. The knowledge children gain while they explore new areas and experiment with new ideas should be the primary goal.
- **Remain flexible and adapt to the changing needs of the children.** Restlessness or boredom may indicate a need to stop the activity and come back to it later.
- **Encourage children to talk and work with each other.** Children learn best when they are encouraged to freely share their reactions and observations. You may want to ask the children about what they did during an activity, what happened, what was the easiest, and what they like the most.

This manual contains activities for children that allow for a wide range of abilities and provide practice for developing a variety of skills.





## Mini 4-H Page

Mini 4-H'ers have lots of fun! There are many activities for you to explore. You can try new things. You can share them with your friends and family.

Here are some things to know about 4-H.

The 4-H symbol is a four-leaf clover with an "H" in each leaf. Clover is a plant that grows in fields, yards and along roadsides. Most clovers have three leaves. Sometimes, if you look very carefully, you may get lucky and find a special clover with four leaves. A four-leaf clover is used as the symbol for 4-H to let everyone know 4-H is a special kind of group.



The 4-H colors are green and white. The four-leaf clover is green and the "H" in each leaf is white.

A group motto is a saying that tells people what is important to the group. The 4-H motto is "To make the best better." When something is better than all the others it is the best. Think about a time when you did your best. Maybe you threw a ball farther than you have ever thrown it before. Now, think about some ways you could do better. You may be able to throw farther by practicing for a while or by watching someone who can throw farther than you, to see how they throw so far. Even if you throw the ball farther than you have ever thrown it before. There are still ways that you can do better the next time. 4-H encourages you to always try to do better, even if you are doing the best you have ever done.

*"To make the  
best better"*


## The 4-H Pledge

A pledge is a promise you make to yourself and to the people around you. The 4-H pledge is a bold print below.


I pledge...


my **head** to clearer thinking,  
my **heart** to greater loyalty,  
my **hands** to larger service, and  
my **health** to better living for  
my **club**, my **community**,  
my **country**, and my **world**.


What do these words mean?

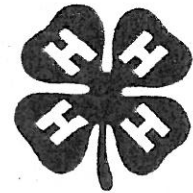
I Pledge my Head  to clearer thinking, means I promise to use my head to make good choices.

My heart  to greater loyalty, means to use my heart to be a good friend.

My hands  to larger service, and, means to use my hands to do helpful things for others.

My health  to better living, means to take care of my body and to show others how to live in a healthy way.

For my club, my community, my country  and my world, means to help my group, my community, my country and my world be happy and safe for everyone.



# *What are Wildlife Adventures?*

Do you ever wonder about the animals that live in the woods and open areas around your home or city? Would you like to know about how and where they live? The world of wildlife beckons you! There are so many fun things to do to get to know wildlife, indoors and out, every month of the year.

*Wildlife Adventures* involves watching wild animals and birds that live near our homes. It also involves building shelters, creating your own critters, making a nature mobile, and learning what type of tracks animals leave behind. Luckily, you won't need much in the way of equipment to enjoy wildlife. You already have the most important tools – your eyes, ears, nose, and hands!

There are some rules to keep in mind when exploring. Ask permission before you wander onto someone's property. Do not pick plants, flowers, or tamper with nature or fences in any way. Treat wildlife habitats with great care. Don't just turn over rocks or logs. Animals live in those places. Take your time to experience wildlife. There is so much we all can learn.

## ◆ **Activity 1 – Birds of Indiana**

You will need the following things:

- color pencils, markers or crayons
- scissors
- 14" X 22" posterboard (any color) OR
- two or three dead twigs of different lengths
- string or heavy thread
- glue or tape



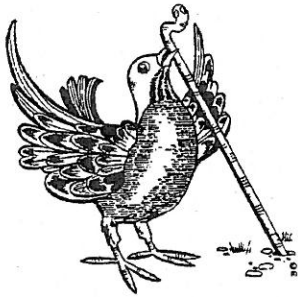
Here is what you do:

1. Find color pictures of these birds in a book at home or in the library.
2. Color the birds to match the pictures in the book.
3. Carefully cut out your colored pictures.
4. Arrange the pictures on the posterboard. . Leave room for your name in the lower right hand corner and a title across the top. If you would like to make a mobile, skip to step 7
5. Carefully glue the pictures to the posterboard.
6. To make a bird mobile, follow steps 1, 2 and 3. Tape or glue string or thread of different lengths to the back of each of the birds.
7. Arrange the twigs so the longest is on top and the shortest is one bottom. Tie the twigs together leaving 4" to 6" between each twig.
8. Carefully arrange the birds and tie their strings to the twigs. You can move the birds if you need to.
9. Carefully pick up the top twig in the center. Look at how the mobile hangs. Tie a piece of string to the point on the stick where you are holding it. Congratulations! You have a mobile.
10. Bring your poster or mobile to the fair.

It will take some time to find the color pictures of the birds in a book. Look carefully. Ask the librarian to help you if needed. This activity helps you to quickly identify the types of birds that live near your home. Look closely. Some of the birds live around your home only during the summer months. Some birds are seen only in the winter months. It shows how close we live to the wildlife around us.

TURN TO BACK OF BOOK TO SEE BIRDS.....





## ◆ Activity 2 – Make a bird feeder

You will need the following things:

- an empty half gallon milk carton, coffee can, glass jar, coconut shell or pine cones.
- wire or string to attach the feeder to a tree limb
- small block of scrap wood about 1" X 2" that is  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick
- stapler, glue or tape
- small nail or pin

Here is what you do to make a feeder from a paperboard milk carton:

1. Cut 2 opposite sides out of the milk carton. Leave about 1" all the way around the cutout. The top should be stapled, glued or taped shut. Punch a hole in the top to tie the wire or string through.
2. Punch 3 or 4 holes in the bottom of the carton with a small nail or pin. Punch from the inside out so water can drain out.
3. Punch a hole in the center of the top. (Do not open the top)
4. Color the carton to look like the tree. Or cover it with leaves glued on with weatherproof glue.
5. Loop strings or wire through the hole in the top of the carton. This string or wire will go around the tree limb to support the feeder. Leave enough string or wire to tie the feeder at a height where you can refill it.
6. You may hang your feeder from a post or clothesline pole.
7. Bring your feeder to the fair.

Other bird feeder suggestions:

For seed: Coffee can with half a plastic lid on both ends.

Glass jar hung horizontally.

Empty coconut shell cut in half.

For suet: Mesh bag (like the kind onions come in).

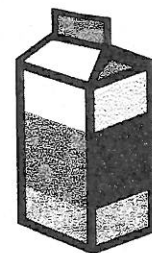
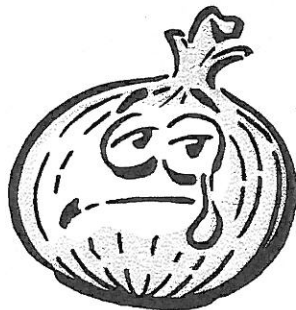
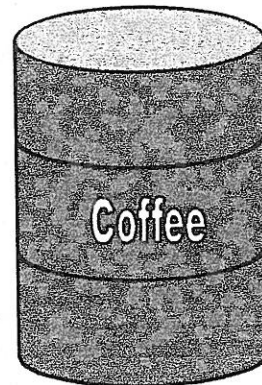
Coconut shell filled with melted suet.

Drill holes in log and fill with melted suet.

Other ideas: Slather peanut butter on pinecones.

Hang coconut half upside down (some birds love fresh coconut!)

String peanuts on wire or heavy string.



Some birds will nest in an old kettle or jug in the grass, or one placed securely in the fork of a tree. Hang up a hollowed out coconut that has an entrance hole up to 1 1/2" in diameter and see if anyone moves in.



## ◆ Activity 3 – Birdwatching

You will need the following things:

- Binoculars
- bird feed
- supplies for a bird feeder
- pencil and chart
- a quiet place to sit

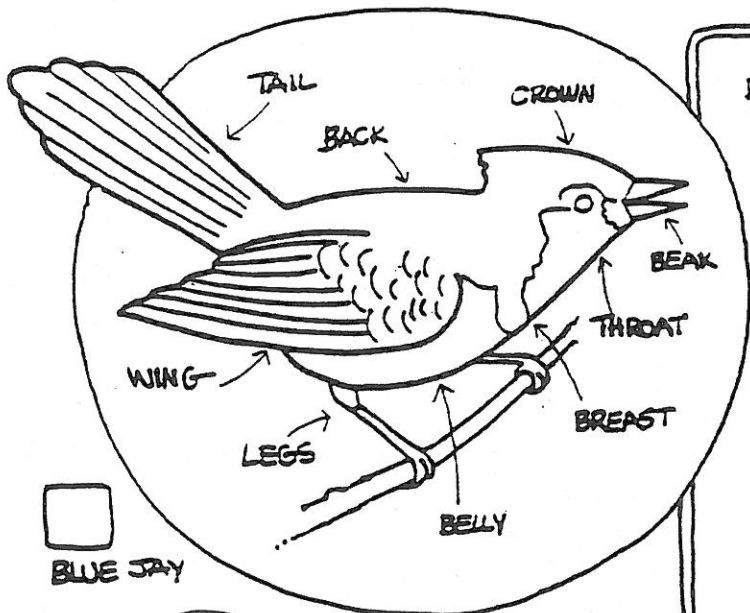
Here is what you do:

1. A quiet place to sit. You will need to be still for several minutes before the birds come around you. Perhaps you can watch the birds from inside your house? Birds feed in the morning hours. Place the feeder where you can see it from your breakfast table.
2. Binoculars – if you have a set to use or borrow? These make getting a closer view of the birds more fun.
3. Feed – birds like things like cracked corn, mixed birdseed, breadcrumbs, suet, and sunflower seeds.
4. Maybe make a tree feeder by spooning peanut butter on the scales of a pinecone and rolling the pinecone in birdseed. Hang the pinecone in a tree near your window. Remember, if you are doing this activity in the winter, when you begin to feed the birds you must continue to feed them until their natural food is available again.
5. Chart what you see. Keep your chart by the window near the birdfeeder. Draw pictures of the tracks you see. Ask your family to help too! Use a book from the library to help identify the birds.
6. Complete the chart. You may color it too. Glue it to a 14"X22" poster board. **Bring it to the fair.**

BIRD SPECIES	HOW MANY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION

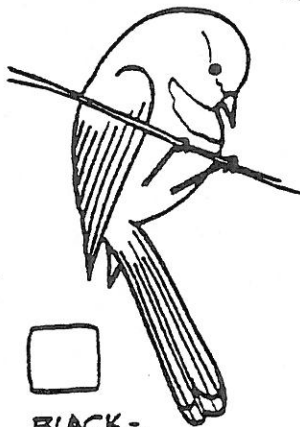
# Birds I have seen

Put a check in the box by the birds you have seen. Color the birds to match how they look. You can draw any birds that are not pictured here.

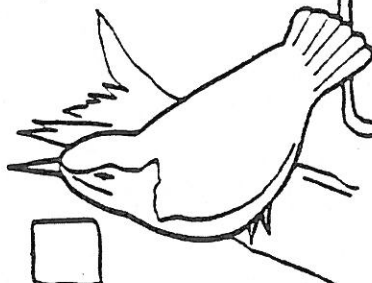


BLUE JAY

Draw and color other birds you have seen.



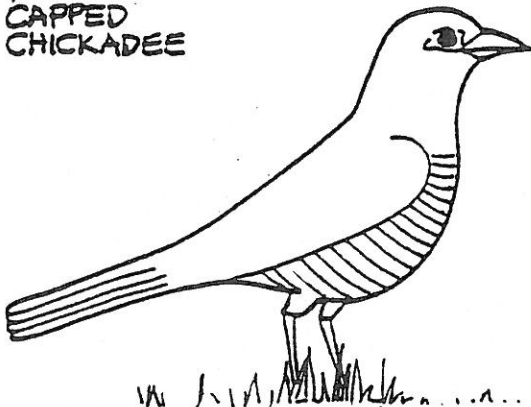
BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE



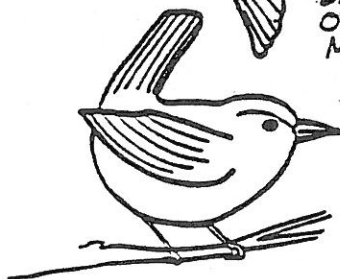
WHITE BREASTED NUTHATCH



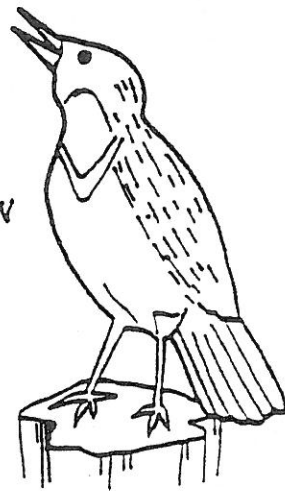
BARN SWALLOW OR PURPLE MARTIN



AMERICAN ROBIN



HOUSE WREN



WESTERN MEADOW LARK

## ◆ Activity 4 – How do birds fly?

You have probably noticed that birds fly in different ways. Crows and robins beat their wings about two times every second; starlings beat their wings 4 to 5 times each second. Chickadees are almost up there with hummingbirds, flapping their wings at least 27 times each second. How do they do it? They have really strong chest muscles and hollow bones. Try beating your arms as fast as a robin. That's three beats per second. How long can you keep up the flapping?

To build your own bird for flight you will need the following things:

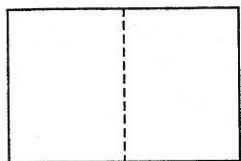
1. Good quality paper.
2. Paper clips.
3. Pencil, ruler and stapler with staples.

Here is what you do:

1. With a sheet of good quality paper, fold it in half bringing the two short sides together. Crease this fold.
2. Open the paper.
3. Bring the lower left-hand corner up to the center fold creating a triangle. There will be some paper sticking out the top. That is OK. Crease this fold. Repeat this step with the right side.
4. With the paper still folded into a triangle, bring the right folded edge up to the centerline. There is a triangle point sticking above the body of the airplane. This is OK. Crease this fold. Repeat this step for the left side.
5. Fold along the centerline using the very first folds you made.
6. Lay the airplane on the side.
7. Measure up from the bottom fold approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " at each end. These are your guide marks for folding down the wings. Mark them lightly with a pencil.
8. Carefully fold down the wing on the side facing you using the pencil marks as a guide. Crease this fold.
9. Turn the airplane over. Repeat this step for the other wing.
10. Fold the tip of the airplane's nose back into the body at the point where the wings begin.
11. Staple the body of the airplane about 1" behind the nose.
12. Slide a paperclip onto the nose for weight.
13. Congratulations! You have made a paper airplane.
14. Repeat these steps as often as necessary to get the airplane just the way you like it. Remember, it is OK if it doesn't turn out right the first time. You can always make another airplane.
15. Color or decorate your airplane. Bring it to the fair.



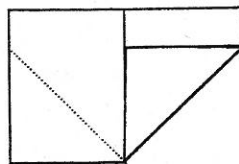
Follow the diagram as you make your airplane.



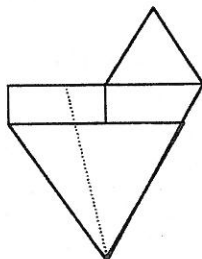
1.



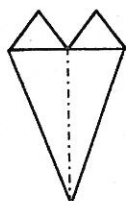
2.



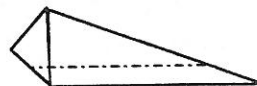
3.



4.

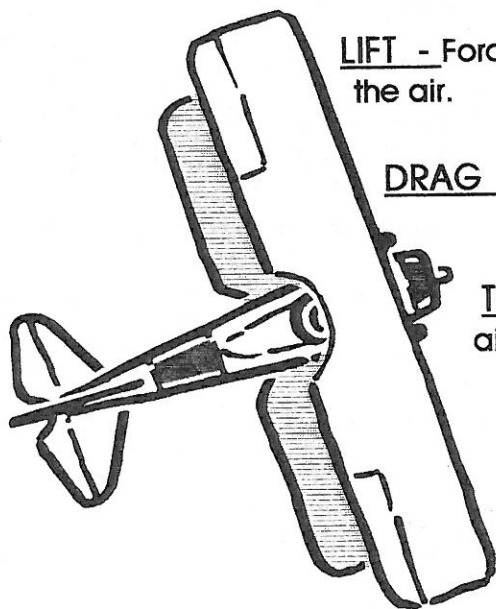


5.



6.

How do the birds fly? There are four forces that affect them and anything that flies. Even your paper airplane! Here they are:



LIFT - Force exerted by air on the wing as it passes through the air.

DRAG - Force caused by the air as it strikes the surfaces of the airplane.

THRUST - Force that moves the airplane through the air.

GRAVITY - Force of gravitational pull the Earth has.

Lift and thrust must exceed drag and gravity for a bird or plane to fly. Once they are in the air, lift and thrust must equal drag and gravity for them to remain in the air. When drag and gravity exceed lift and thrust, the bird or airplane comes down.

What provides the thrust for your paper airplane?

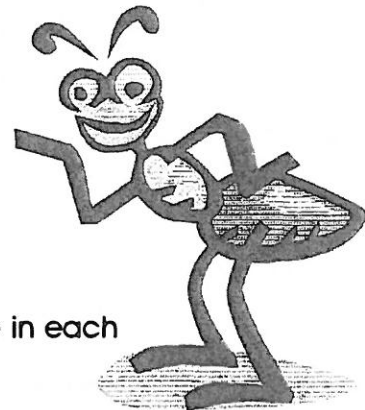
How do birds provide thrust for flight?

Watch several different birds fly. Talk about what you see. Do the birds flap their wings all the time? Have you ever seen a bird stay in the air without flapping its wings? Hint: Look for a big bird up in the air.

## ◆ Activity 5 - Insects

You will need the following things:

1. Three glass or plastic jars with lids.
2. Magnifying glass.
3. Tape, pen and slips of paper.



Here is what you do:

1. Capture three different insects placing one in each of the jars.
2. Close the lids tightly.
3. Use the pen to write this information on a slip of paper: Common name of the insect, the date, where the insect was captured, and your name.
4. Tape the slip of paper to the top or side of the jar. Bring the insects to the fair.
5. Write down what you observe about the insects.

How are they alike?

How are they different? List as many as you can think of.

## ◆Activity 6 -Local Wildlife



You will need the following things:

1. Pencil

Here is what you do:

1. Take a walk in a park or woods. Look for different kinds of wildlife. Fill out the chart of five different kinds of wildlife.

What Wildlife Did You See?	Where Did You See It?	What Does It Eat?	What Did You Find That Belongs to it?
<u>Example:</u> Robin	In tree	Worms	Nest, feather

Where did you take a walk to find the wildlife?

How long did it take you to find the wildlife?

How many more kinds of wildlife did you find?





# 4-H Fair Exhibit



## Exhibit – Kindergarten

Using the pages in your manual, color the wild animals, label them with the proper name, and display them in a notebook. You may color and display as many of the pages as you wish.

## Exhibit – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: (choose one)

1. Birds of Indiana poster.
2. Birds mobile.
3. Bird feeder.

## Exhibit – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: (choose one)

1. Bird Watching Chart poster.
2. Local Wildlife poster.

## Poster Construction Rules:

All posters are to be covered with clear plastic and have a stiff, non-flexible backing. All posters are to be **14" HIGH x 22" WIDE**. You may use any color of poster board. Each poster project should have a title.

All projects are to have a name label on them. You will receive a Mini 4-H newsletter in the mail prior to the Fair that will contain name labels.

If you have any questions about your project, please call the Extension Office at 636-2111 or 1-800-601-5826.





# Noble County Mini 4-H Record Sheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in School \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years in Mini 4-H \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years in project \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Leader's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

A. Project: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Estimated number of hours worked to complete project \_\_\_\_\_

C. Money spent on project:

Cost of supplies: (list) \_\_\_\_\_

OR

Foods – number of \_\_\_\_\_

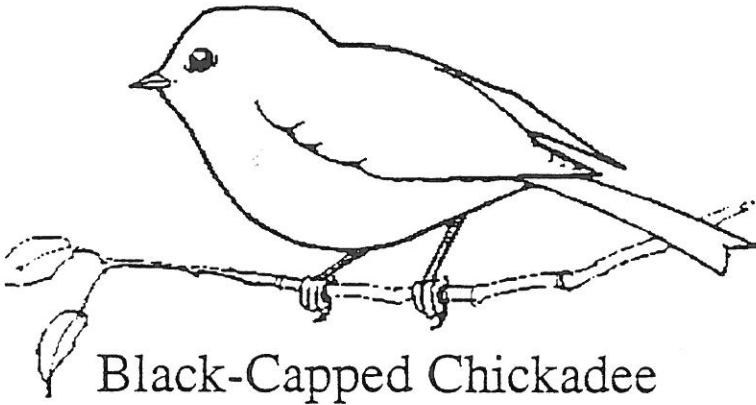
times made \_\_\_\_\_

D. List the things that you learned while you were doing Mini 4-H:

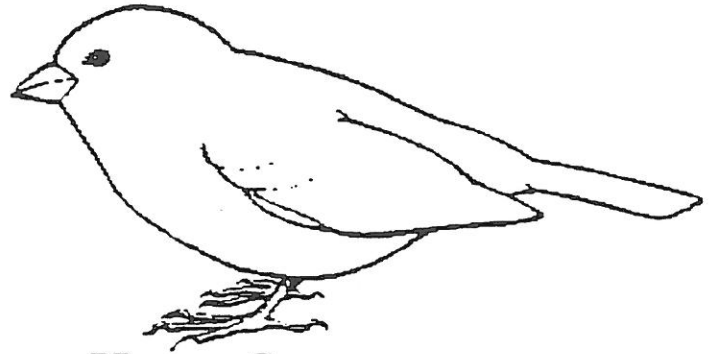
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



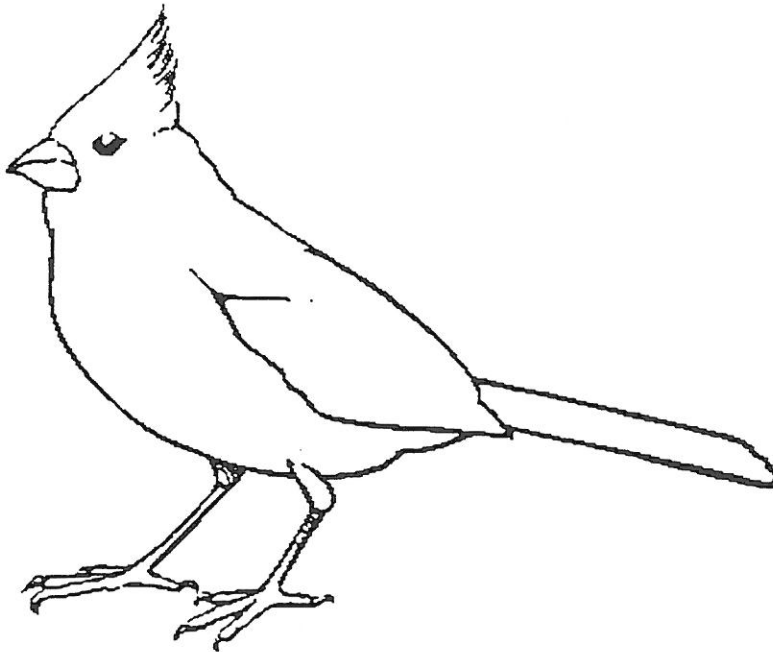
# Birds



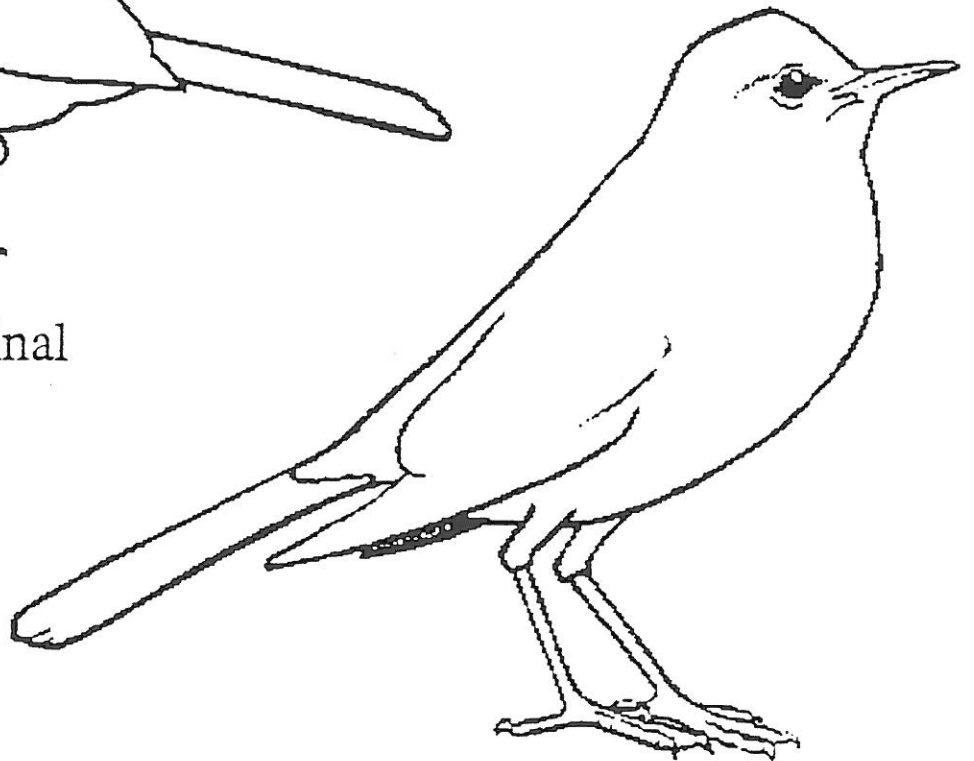
Black-Capped Chickadee



House Sparrow



Northern Cardinal



American Robin

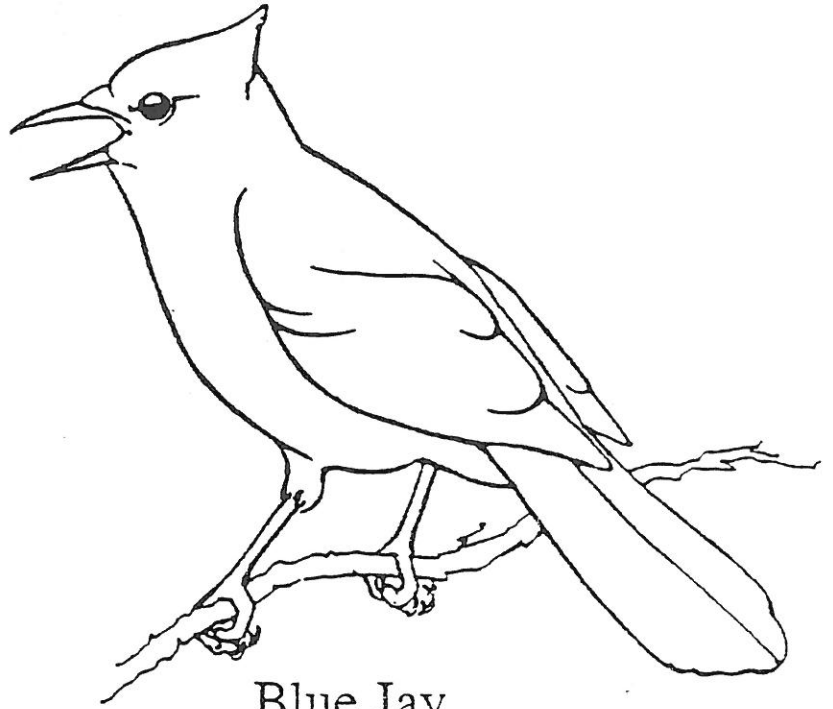




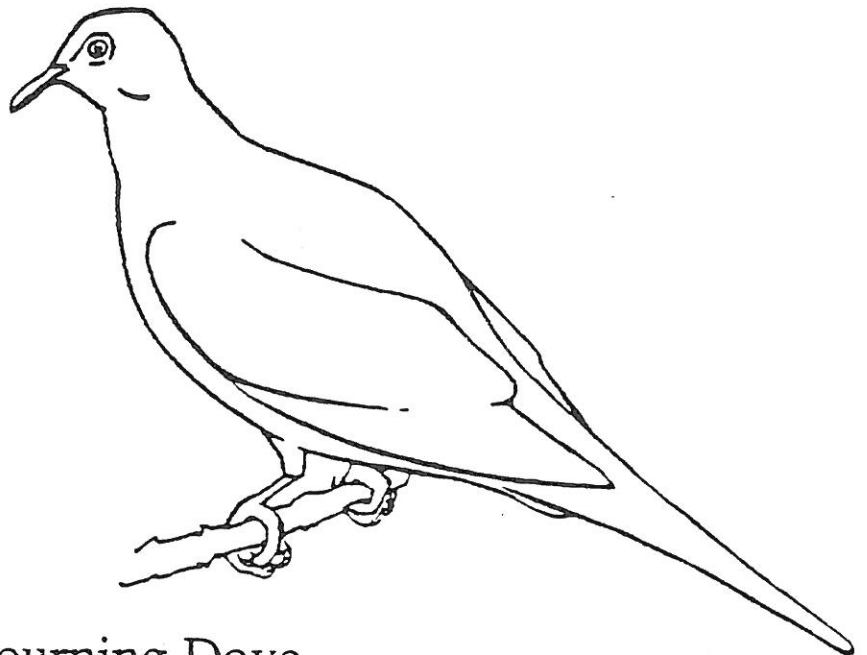
# Birds



Downy Woodpecker

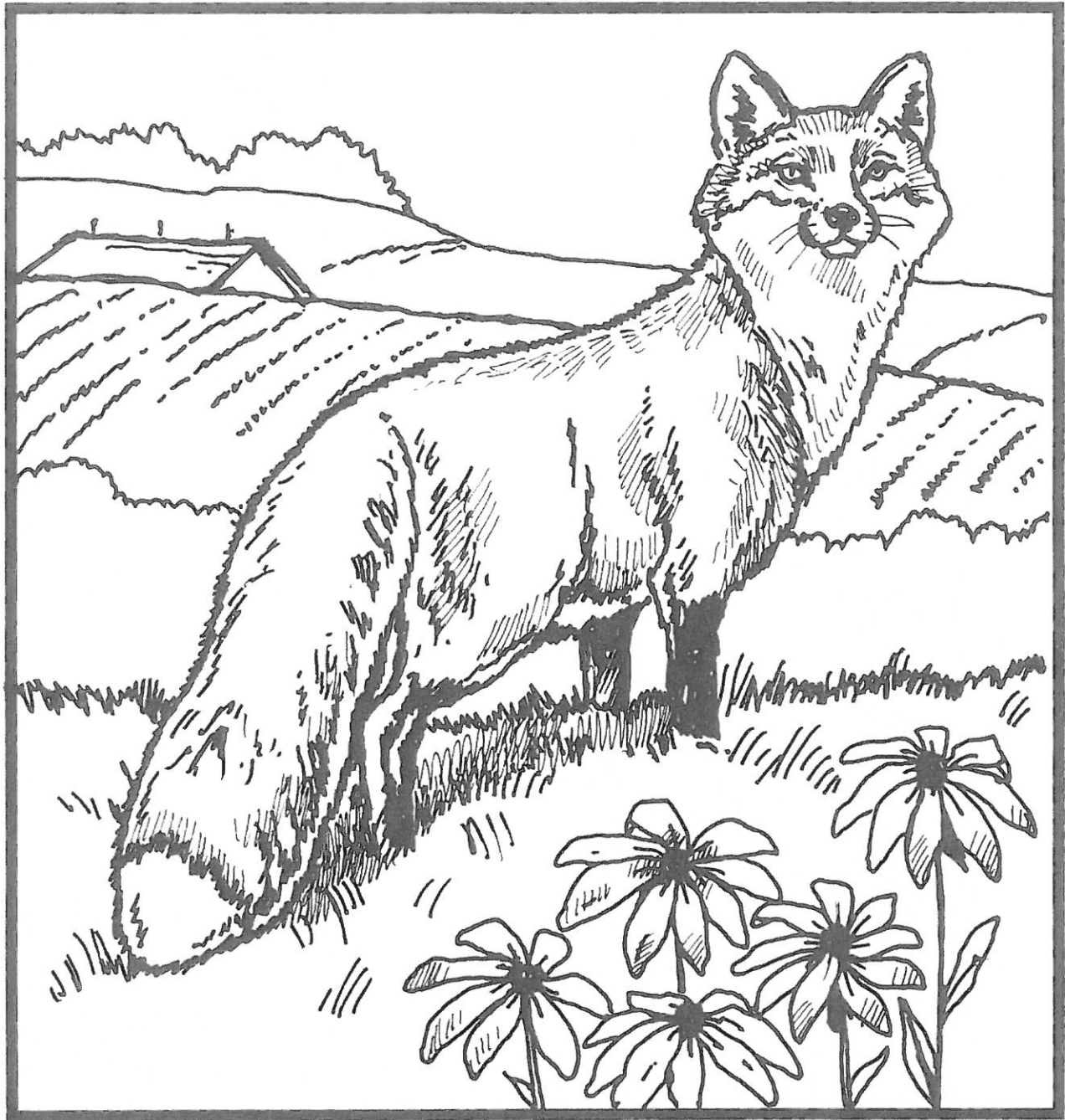


Blue Jay



Mourning Dove





## Red Fox

The red fox hunts farm fields for mice, birds and other small animals. Foxes also eat insects, berries and some kinds of fruit. The red fox is really more orange than red. It has a long, bushy tail with a white tip.



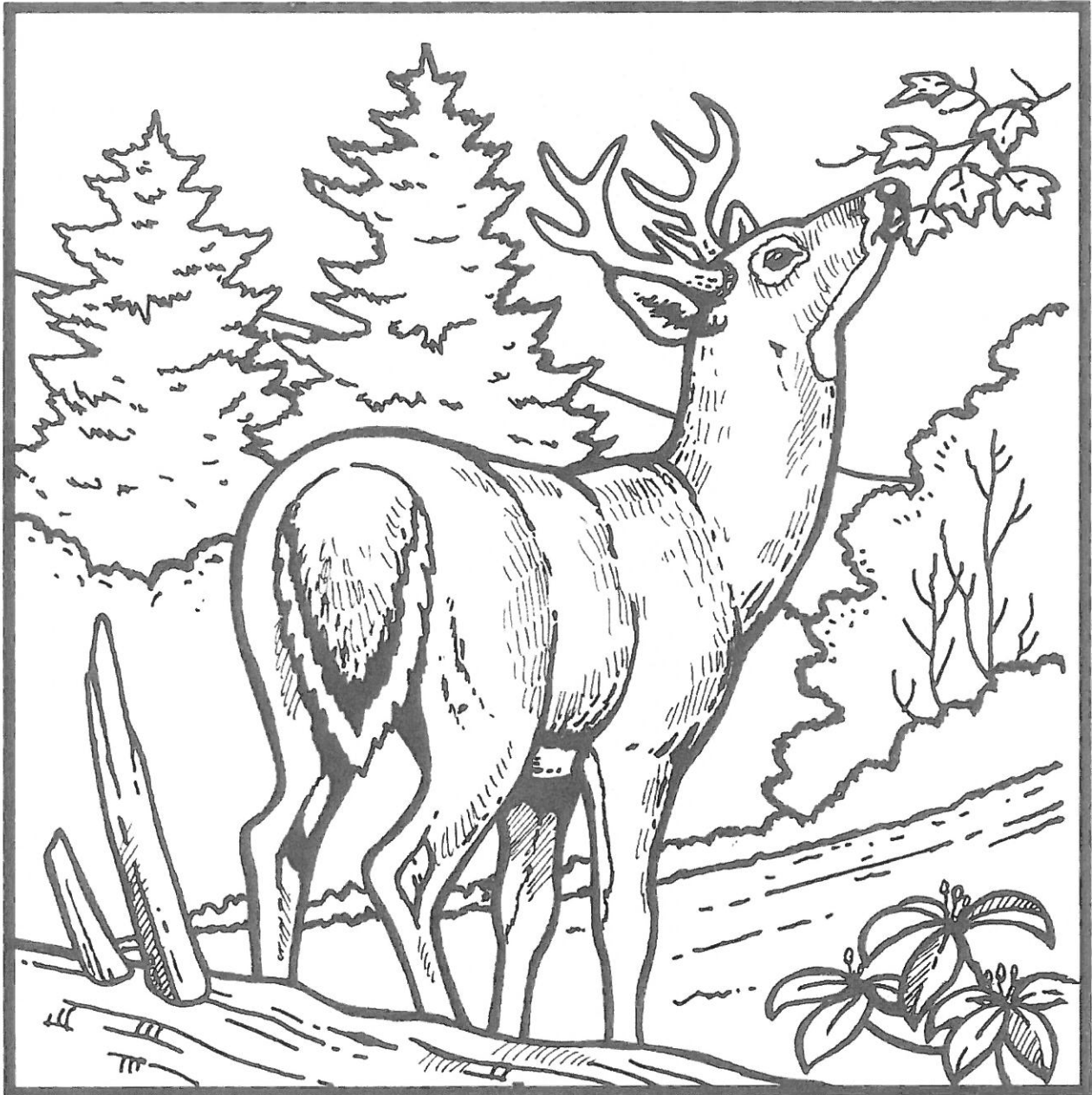




## Raccoon

Raccoons look for food along streams and rivers. At night, they sometimes visit towns to look for food. Raccoons like to raid garbage cans. They like to sleep in hollow trees, or chimneys, during the day. The raccoon looks like it is wearing a black mask.





## White-tailed Deer

The white-tailed deer is the state mammal of Pennsylvania. Female deer are called does. Male deer, or bucks, have antlers. Young deer are called fawns and are covered with white spots that look like spots of sunlight. Deer eat small twigs, acorns and many kinds of plants.

















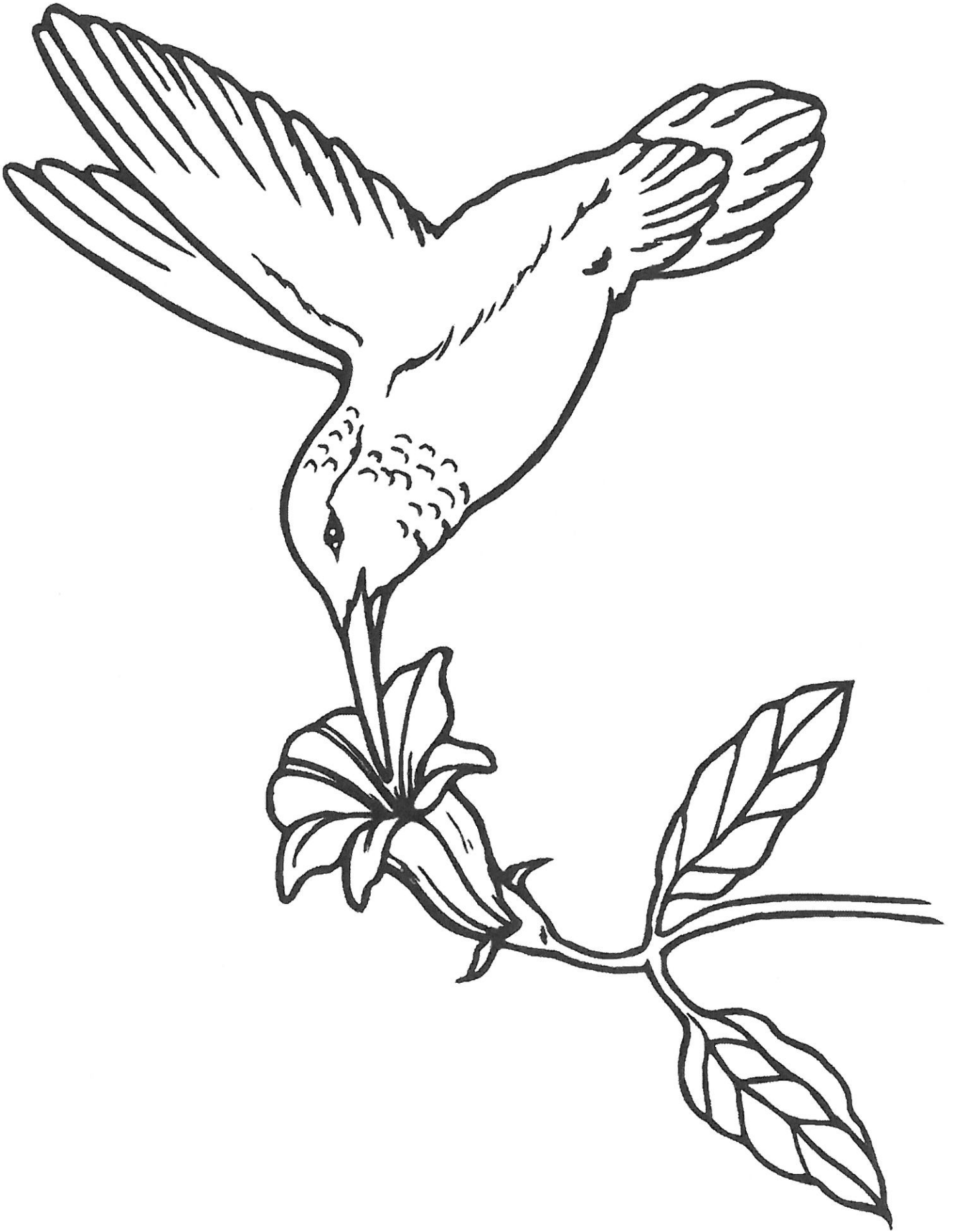






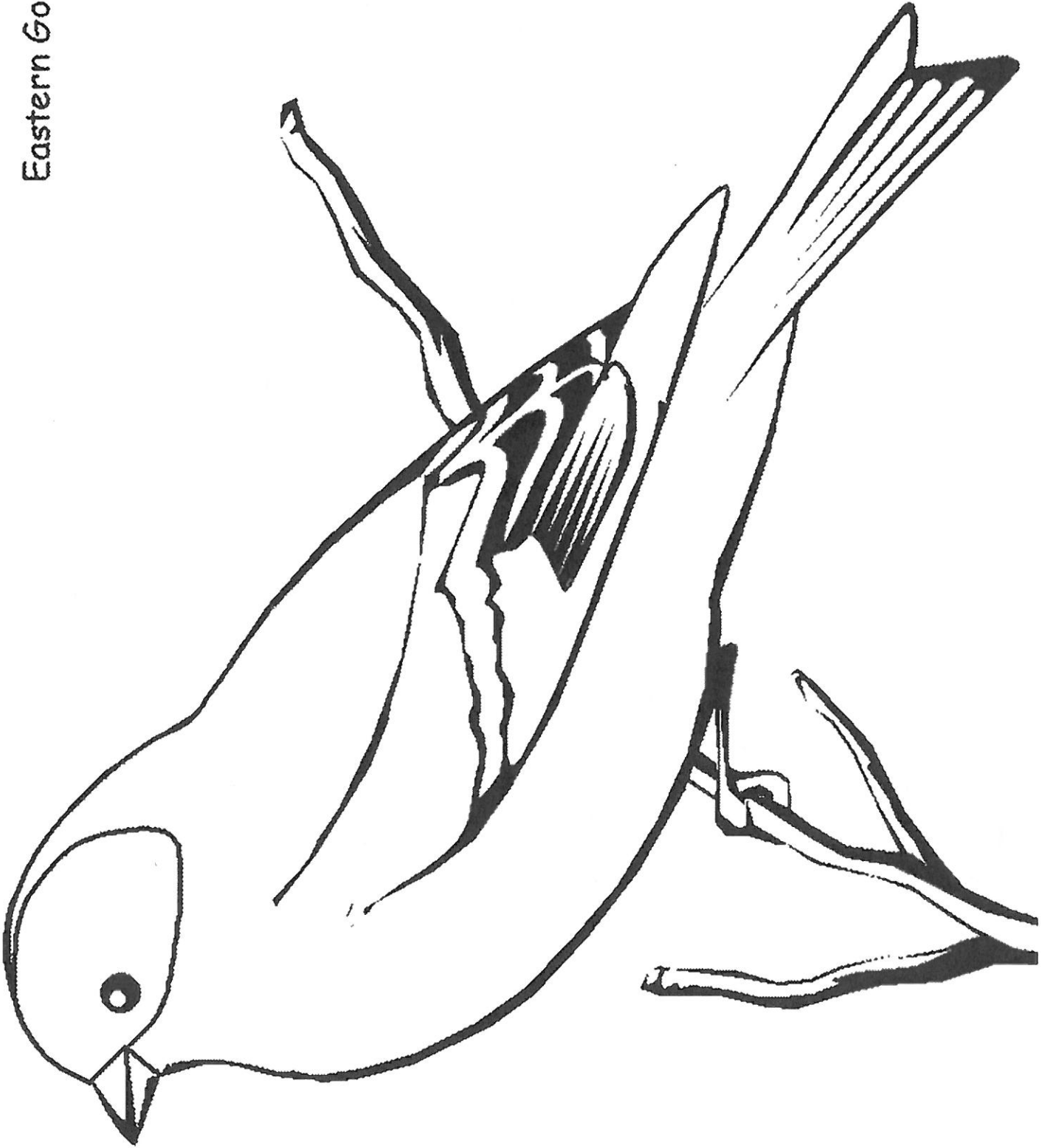








Eastern Goldfinch









Cardinal



