



# My Bird Watching Journal

Segar & Zhenghua Parks, Singapore

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

School : \_\_\_\_\_

Class : \_\_\_\_\_

*Every Singaporean a Naturalist*





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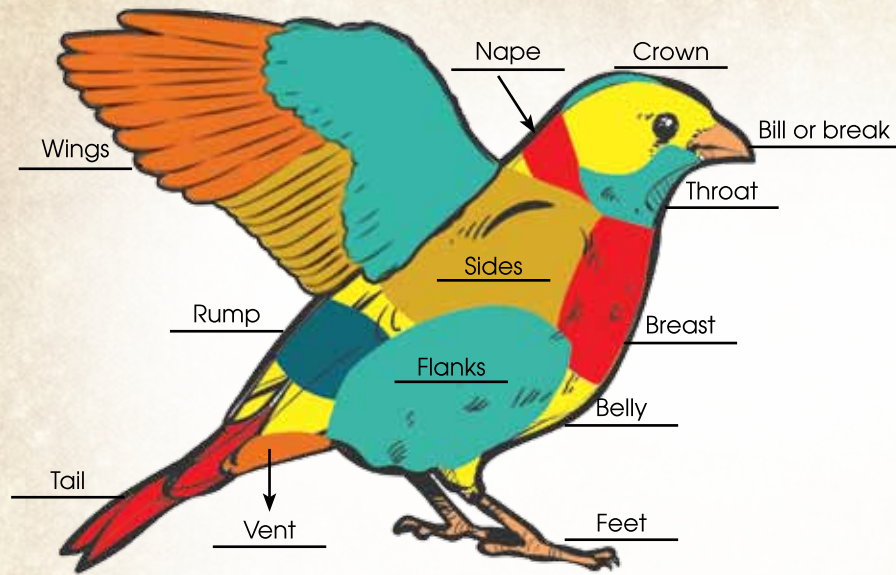
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## PARTS OF A BIRD



**Crown / Nape:** The crown and nape are key parts of the head that can help identify a bird.

**Throat:** A bird's throat may be a different color from its surrounding plumage, or it may be marked with spots, streaks or lines.

**Sides / Flanks:** In many bird species, the flanks have unique colors or markings, though depending on how the birds carry their wings, the flanks may be difficult to see.

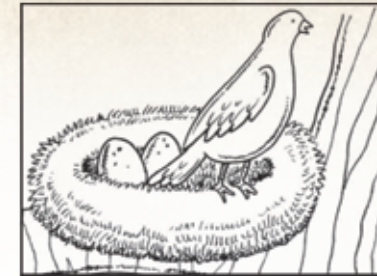
**Breast:** A bird's chest may be differently colored or marked with stripes, streaks or spots that can help with identification.

**Belly:** The colors and markings on the abdomen may vary from the chest and flanks, making it a good feature to check for identification.

**Rump:** For many birds, the rump does not stand out, but some species show unique rump color patches that are useful for identification.

**Tail:** Important for proper identification. The tail can be held in different positions when the bird is perched or flying.

## LIFE CYCLE OF A BIRD



**Adult bird**

Attracts a mate, builds a nest and raises young to start the cycle all over again.



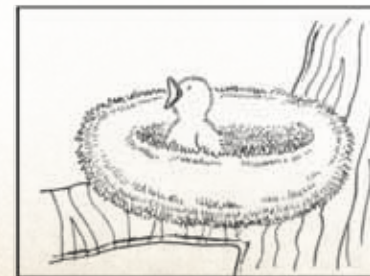
**Fledgling**

A young bird that has grown its feathers and is learning to fly. It is also preparing to leave the nest and care for itself.



**Eggs**

A mother bird lays eggs and sits on them until they hatch.



**Nestling**

Chick squawks and begs for food and were fed by the parents.



**Hatchling**

A baby bird that has just hatched is called a hatchling.



## BIRD SPECIES



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:** Red Jungle Fowl

**Scientific name:** *Gallus gallus*

**Size:**

Large to extra large,  
50cm or more

**Description:**

- Resembles domestic chicken
- Has conspicuous white ear patch
- Males are larger and more colourful than females
- Females are drab brown



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Oriental Pied Hornbill

**Scientific name:**  
*Anthracoceros albirostris*

**Size:**

Extra large, more than 50cm

**Description:**

- Black and white plumage
- Large, long bill



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker

**Scientific name:**  
*Dendrocopos moluccensis*

**Size:**

Small, less than 20cm

**Description:**

- Small, brownish black and white woodpecker



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Collared Kingfisher

**Scientific name:**  
*Todiramphus chloris*

**Size:**

Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**

- Easily identified by its blue and white plumage
- Unique laughing call



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Common Flameback/ Goldenback

**Scientific name:**  
*Dinopium javanense*

**Size:**

Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**

- Golden yellow-back
- Black scaling on chest
- Males have red crown
- Females have black crown



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
White-throated Kingfisher

**Scientific name:**  
*Halcyon smyrnensis*

**Size:**

Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**

- White-throat and breast
- Red bill
- Chocolate-brown head

## BIRD SPECIES



Adult

Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Asian Glossy Starling

**Scientific name:**  
*Aplonis panayensis*

**Size:**  
Small to Medium, 20cm to 35cm

**Description:**

- Often seen in flocks around fruiting trees
- Adult is glossy green
- Juvenile has dark streaks
- Red eyes



Juvenile

Photo credit: Brian Fisher



Male

Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Asian Koel

**Scientific name:**  
*Eudynamys scolopaceus*

**Size:**  
Large, less than 50cm

**Description:**

- Longer body and tail than crows
- Greenish brown bill
- Red eyes
- Males are dark blue, black
- Females are brown with white spots
- Loud ko-el call



Female

Photo credit: Douglas Janson



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
House Crow

**Scientific name:**  
*Corvus splendens*

**Size:**  
Large, less than 50 cm

**Description:**

- Easily identified by its black body
- Lighter grey-brown on the neck and breast



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Common Myna

**Scientific name:**  
*Acridotheres tristis*

**Size:**  
Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**

- Yellow eye-batch
- Brown body



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Javan/White-vented Myna

**Scientific name:**  
*Acridotheres javanicus*

**Size:**  
Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**

- Dark grey
- A small crest at the base of its bill
- Yellow bill



## BIRD SPECIES



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**

Spotted Dove

**Scientific name:**

*Spilopelia chinensis*

**Size:**

Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**

- Pattern of black and white spots on its neck
- Soft coo-coo call



Adult

Photo credit: Douglas Janson

**Common name:**

Black-naped Oriole

**Scientific name:**

*Oriolus chinensis*

**Size:**

Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**

- Juveniles have a dull black-nape
- Clear fruity whistle



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**

Zebra Dove

**Scientific name:**

*Geopelia striata*

**Size:**

Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**

- Intricate bars on its plumage
- Its call is a series of high-pitched coo – like a Morse code



Juvenile

Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**

Common (Rock) Pigeon

**Scientific name:**

*Columba livia*

**Size:**

Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**

- Grey markings on the body



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee



Photo credit: Andrew Tan

**Common name:**

Pink-necked Green-Pigeon

**Scientific name:**

*Treron vernans*

**Size:**

Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**

- Males have a pink neck
- Females are largely green

## BIRD SPECIES



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**

Common lora

**Scientific name:**

*Aegithina tiphia*

**Size:**

Small, less than 20cm

**Description:**

- Adult male has dark green to black upperparts
- Wings are black with white wing bars



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**

White-crested Laughingthrush

**Scientific name:**

*Garrulax leucolophus*

**Size:**

Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**

- Black mask and white crest
- Loud chattering raucous laughing call



Photo credit: Jeff Whitlock

**Common name:**

Cockatoos

**Scientific name:**

*Cacatuidae*

**Size:**

Large, less than 50 cm

**Description:**

- White bodies with shades of yellow and orange



Photo credit: Francis Yap

**Common name:**

Parrots and Parakeets

**Scientific name:**

*Psittaciformes and Melopsittacus undulatus*

**Size:**

Medium to large, 35 cm to 50 cm

**Description:**

- Hooked beaks
- Parakeets have very long tails



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**

Oriental Magpie-Robin

**Scientific name:**

*Copsychus saularis*

**Size:**

Small, less than 20 cm

**Description:**

- White wing patch and outer tail
- Females are more grey
- Melodious whistles



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**

Blue-tailed Bee-eater

**Scientific name:**

*Merops philippinus*

**Size:**

Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**

- Yellow-brown throat
- Green head
- Blue-grey tail



## BIRD SPECIES



Photo credit: Francis Yap

**Common name:**  
Blue-throated Bee-eater

**Scientific name:**  
*Merops viridis*

**Size:**  
Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**  
- Blue throat  
- Brown head



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Common Tailorbird

**Scientific name:**  
*Orthotomus sutorius*

**Size:**  
Small, less than 20cm

**Description:**  
- Rufous brown crown  
- Utters loud "chi-yup"



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Straw-headed Bulbul

**Scientific name:**  
*Pycnonotus zeylanicus*

**Size:**  
Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**  
- Orange cap and cheeks  
- Olive green wings and tail  
- Loud and bubbly call



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Crimson Sunbird

**Scientific name:**  
*Aethopyga siparaja*

**Size:**  
Small, less than 20cm

**Description:**  
- Male has red head and dark blue crown  
- Female has dull-olive coloured upperparts



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Yellow-vented Bulbul

**Scientific name:**  
*Pycnonotus goiavier*

**Size:**  
Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**  
- White-head  
- Dark crown  
- Bubbly call  
- Yellow-vent



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Brown-throated Sunbird

**Scientific name:**  
*Anthreptes malacensis*

**Size:**  
Small, less than 20cm

**Description:**  
- Male has dull brownish head-sides and throat  
- Female has pale yellow eyering



## BIRD SPECIES



Photo credit: Lee Zahidi Hamid

**Common name:**  
Olive-backed Sunbird

**Scientific name:**  
*Nectarinia jugularis*  
(*Cinnyris jugularis*)

**Size:**  
Small, less than 20cm

**Description:**  
- Long slightly curved beak  
- Males have bright colours  
- Females are dull olive brown



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Oriental white-eye

**Scientific name:**  
*Zosterops palpebrosus*

**Size:**  
Extra small, less than 10cm

**Description:**  
- Upper parts are olive-green  
- White eye ring  
- 'Chew' call



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker

**Scientific name:**  
*Dicaeum cruentatum*

**Size:**  
Extra small, less than 10cm

**Description:**  
- Male has bright red upperparts  
- Female has bright red rump



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
Eurasian Tree Sparrow

**Scientific name:**  
*Passer montanus*

**Size:**  
Small, less than 20cm

**Description:**  
- Brown crown  
- Black ear covert and throat patch



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**  
White-breasted Waterhen

**Scientific name:**  
*Amaurornis phoenicurus*

**Size:**  
Medium, less than 35cm

**Description:**  
- White face and underparts contrasting with dark slaty-grey upperparts  
- Yellowish-green bill with red base



## BIRD SPECIES



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**

Paddyfield Pipit

**Scientific name:**

*Anthus rufulus*

**Size:**

Small, less than 20cm

**Description:**

- Greyish-brown streaked upperparts
- Pale buff underparts with streaks around upper-breast and long bill/tail/legs



Photo credit: Lee Tiah Khee

**Common name:**

Scaly-breasted Munia

**Scientific name:**

*Zosterops palpebrosus*

**Size:**

Small, less than 20cm

**Description:**

- Distinctive plumage pattern
- Brown upperparts with brownish scales on breast
- Whitish center of belly and vent

## BIRD WATCHING GUIDELINES



Walk slowly and avoid sudden movements



Be quiet



Whisper to your teachers or friends



Listen to the birdcall



Keep a safe distance and look out for birds; feeding, nesting, perching



Observe the parts of the bird to identify the species.  
Record your observations in the datasheet.



## MONITORING BIRDS

Where can you find the birds?

### Hear the call of the bird

- Often you will hear a bird call before seeing the bird.
- Identify which direction the call is coming from to locate the bird.

### Birds flying in the sky

- Birds fly pass as they fly from place to place.
- Some birds swift around the sky.
- These are Swifts or Swiftlets

### Birds on the tree

- Birds build their nest and female birds lay eggs in the nest.
- Adult birds feed their chicks once they hatched.
- Birds perch on branches to rest and feed.
- Do look out for any movements of leaves on the tree and start searching from the branches to spot the birds.

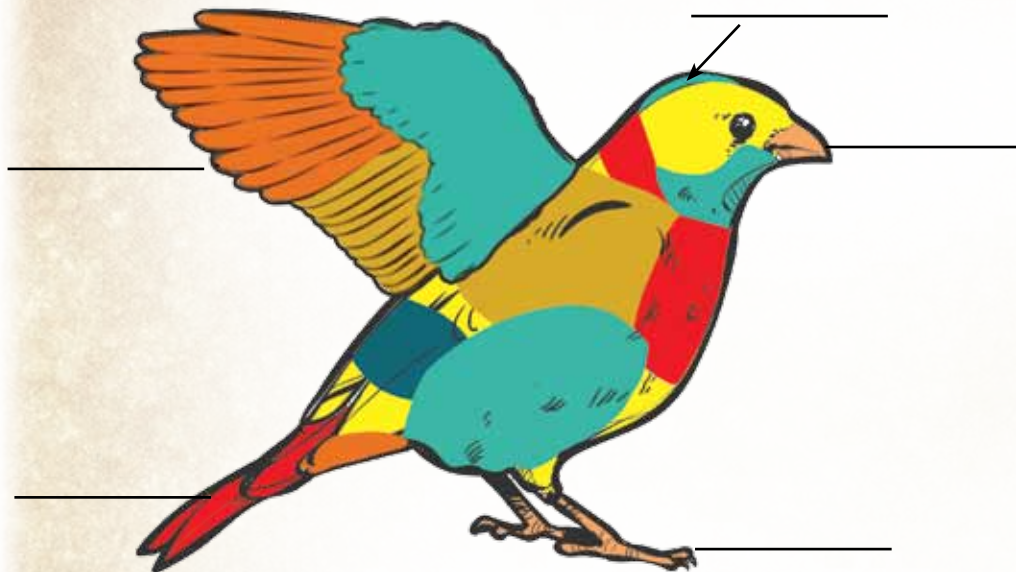
### Birds on the ground

Some birds feed from the ground, so look out for them walking around.



## LABEL THE PARTS OF A BIRD

Refer to the keywords and fill in the blanks to label the parts of a bird.



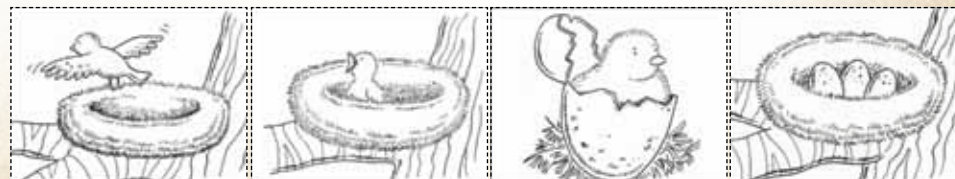
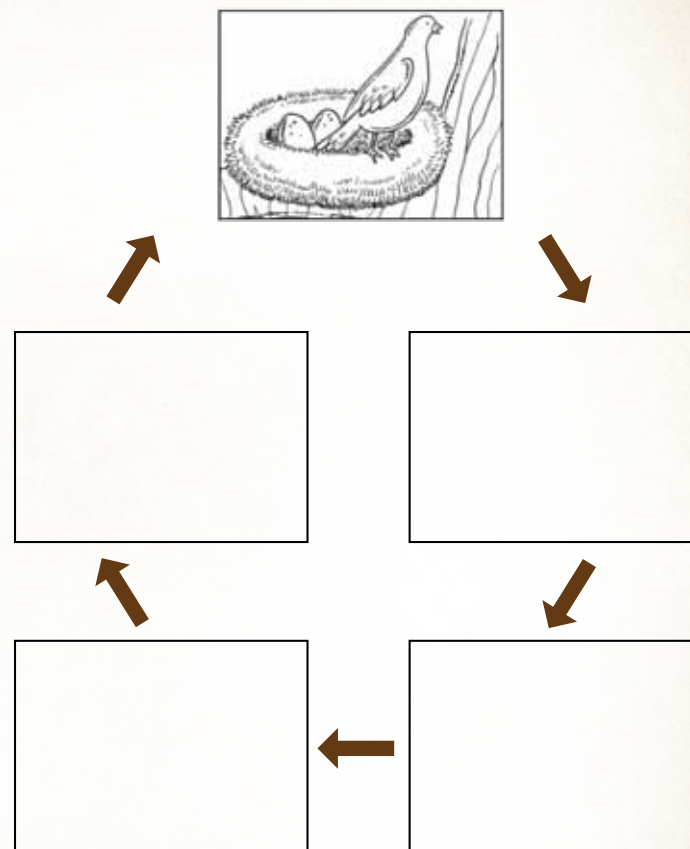
### Keywords

feet  
tail  
beak  
wings  
crown



## LIFE CYCLE OF A BIRD

Cut out the 4 images and glue them onto the life cycle where they belong!

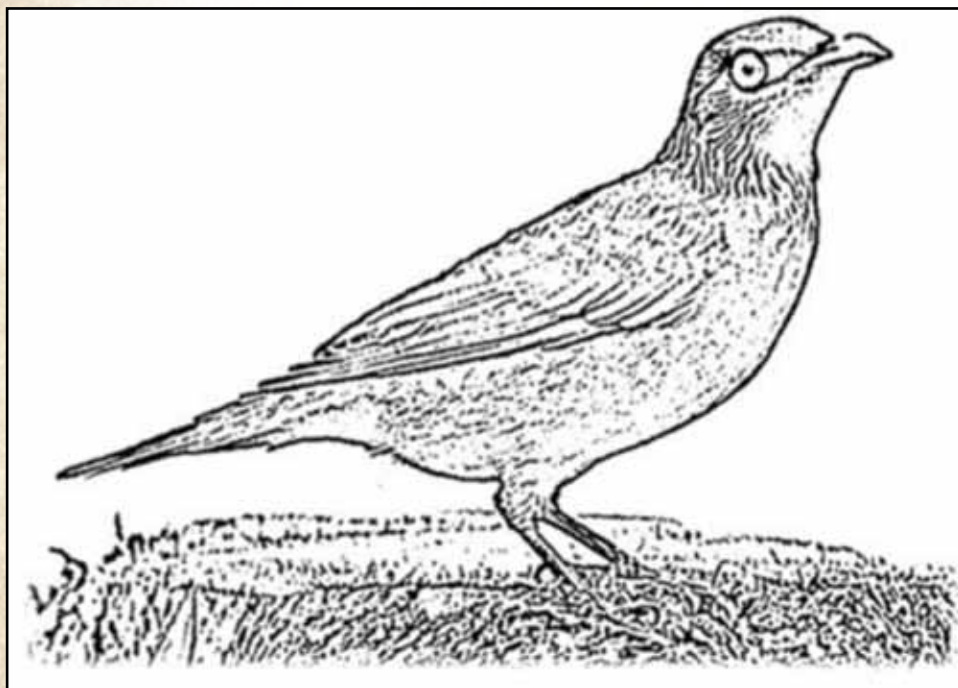


< Cut along the dotted line



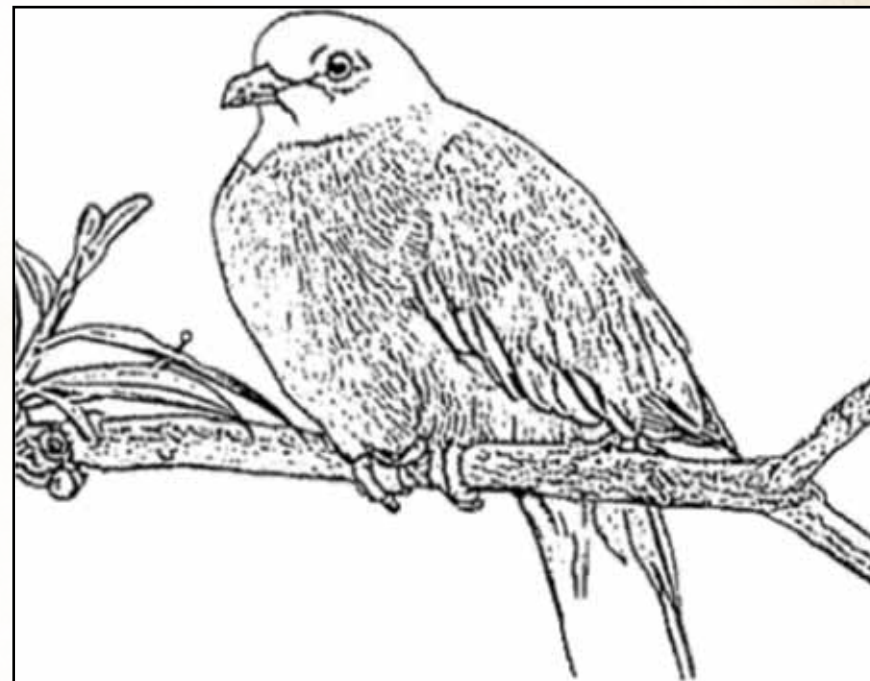
## JUST ADD COLOURS!

Based on your observations of the birds, colour the birds accordingly with a colour pencil or crayon.



Asian Glossy Starling

*Original Photo by Lee Tiah Khee  
Derivative work by Sung Mei Yee*

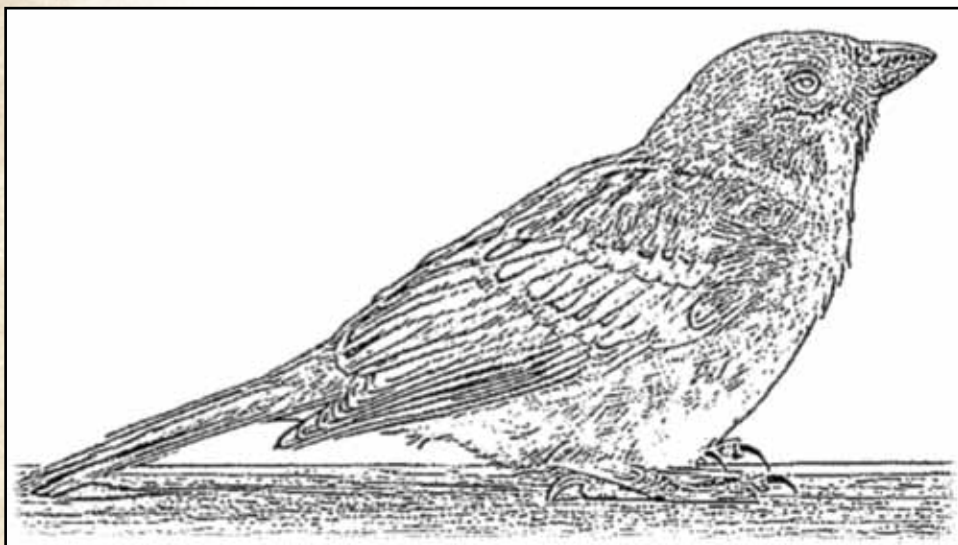


Pink-necked Green-Pigeon

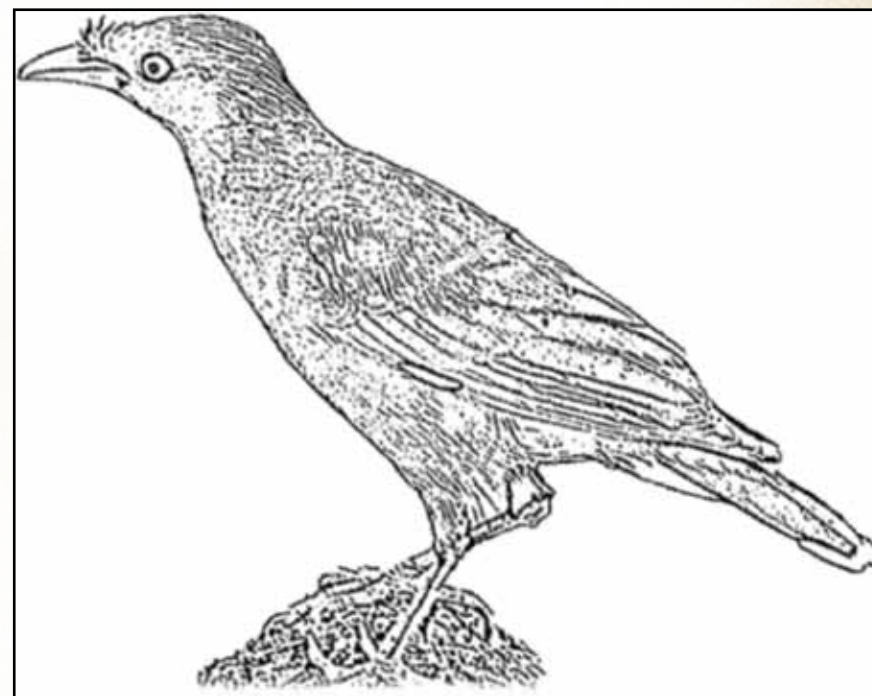
*Original Photo by Andrew Tan  
Derivative work by Sung Mei Yee*

## JUST ADD COLOURS!

Based on your observations of the birds, colour the birds accordingly with a colour pencil or crayon.



Eurasian Tree Sparrow



Javan/White-vented Myna

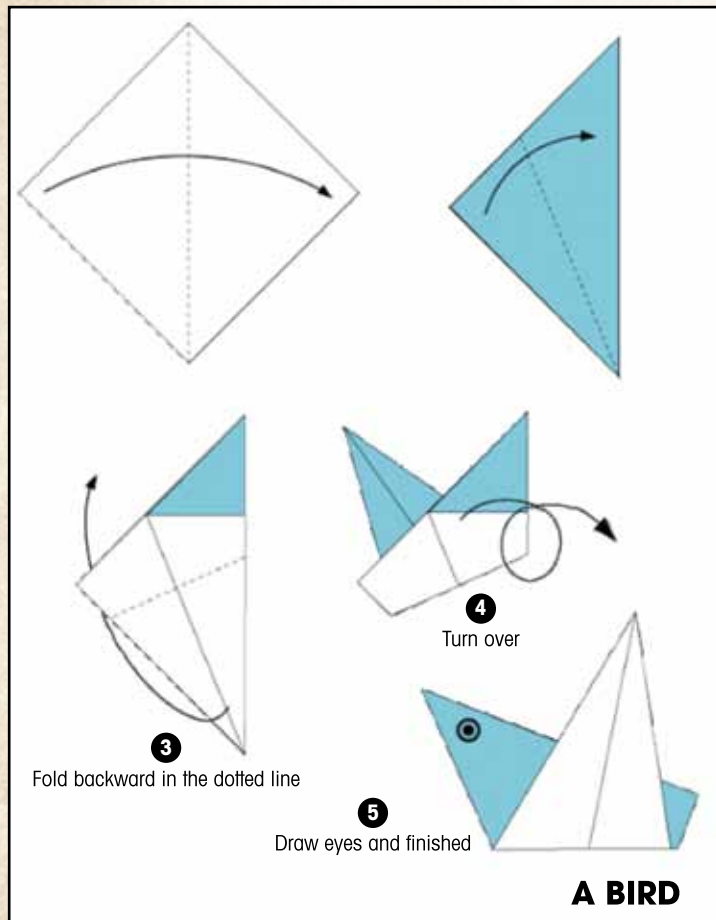
Original Photo by Lee Tiah Khee  
Derivative work by Sung Mei Yee

Original Photo by Lee Tiah Khee  
Derivative work by Sung Mei Yee

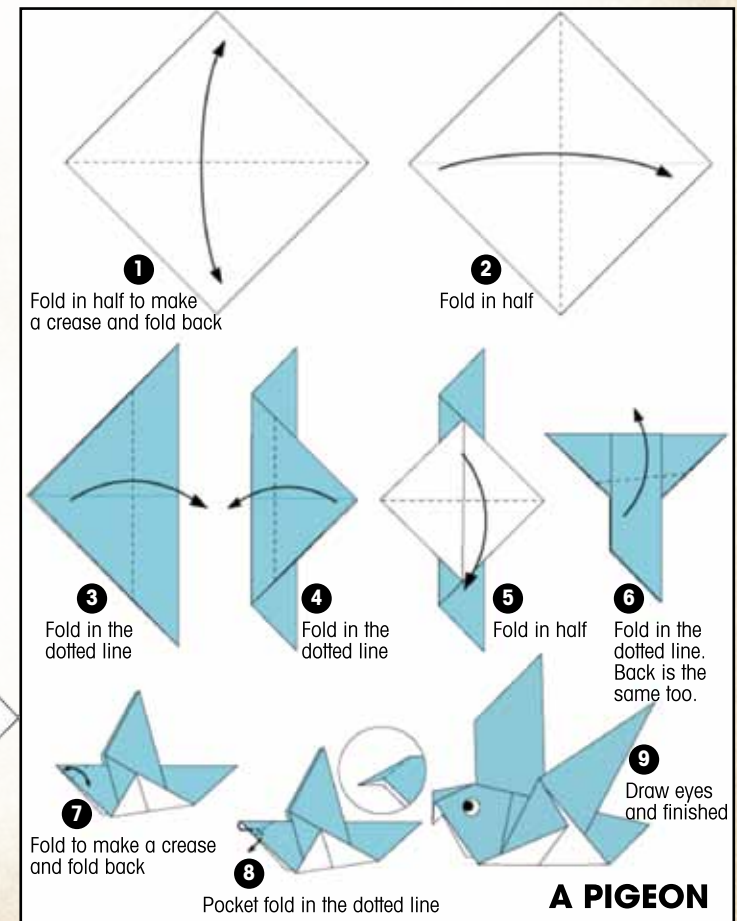


# ORIGAMI BIRDS

Fold the square paper according to the instructions to form a bird!



Copyright: Fumiaki Shingu

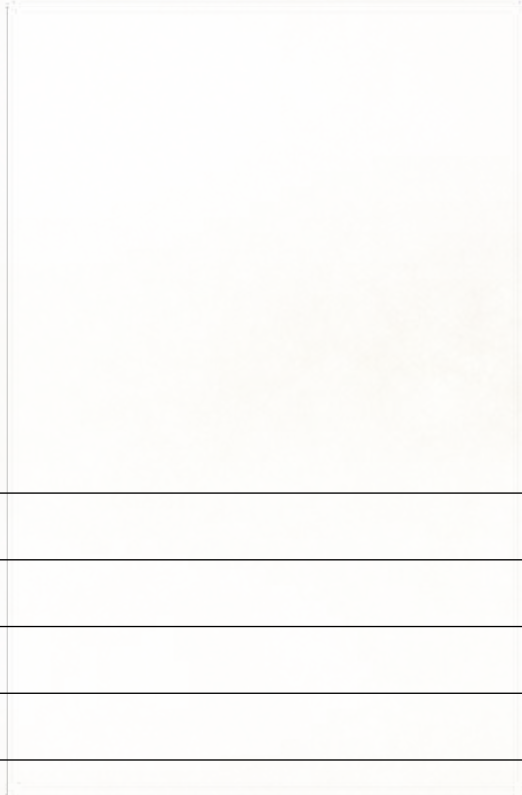


Arrangement of Traditional Diagram: Fumiaki Shingu



## MY FAVOURITE BIRD

Draw and write a sentence  
about your favourite bird.



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## BIRD OBSERVATIONS

Name of bird: \_\_\_\_\_

Date seen: \_\_\_\_\_ Time seen: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:  
(circle one)



sunny



partly cloudy



cloudy



rainy

Draw a picture of the bird you saw

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Name of bird: \_\_\_\_\_

Date seen: \_\_\_\_\_ Time seen: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:  
(circle one)



sunny



partly cloudy



cloudy



rainy

Draw a picture of the bird you saw

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---

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---

---

---



## BIRD OBSERVATIONS

Name of bird: \_\_\_\_\_

Date seen: \_\_\_\_\_ Time seen: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:  
(circle one)



sunny



partly cloudy



cloudy



rainy

Draw a picture of the bird you saw

---

---

---

---

---



Name of bird: \_\_\_\_\_

Date seen: \_\_\_\_\_ Time seen: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:  
(circle one)



sunny



partly cloudy



cloudy



rainy

Draw a picture of the bird you saw

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---

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## BIRD OBSERVATIONS

Name of bird: \_\_\_\_\_

Date seen: \_\_\_\_\_ Time seen: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:  
(circle one)



sunny



partly cloudy



cloudy



rainy

Draw a picture of the bird you saw

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Name of bird: \_\_\_\_\_

Date seen: \_\_\_\_\_ Time seen: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:  
(circle one)



sunny



partly cloudy



cloudy



rainy

Draw a picture of the bird you saw

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# BIRD WATCHING IN SINGAPORE



## Here are some suggested places for birdwatching in Singapore

- 1 Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve
- 2 Kranji Marshes
- 3 Zhenghua Park
- 4 Dairy Farm Nature Park
- 5 Bukit Batok Nature Park
- 6 Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park
- 7 Woodlands Waterfront Park
- 8 Jelutong Tower @ MacRitchie Nature Trail
- 9 Singapore Botanic Gardens
- 10 Southern Ridges