



NATURE AT HOME

We hope to inspire kids of all ages to learn about the natural world and discover new connections to nature.



Nature Journal – Birding Basics

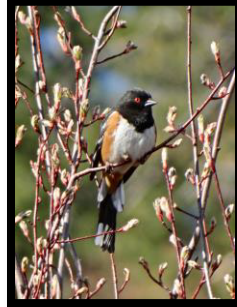
View the Video at DishmanHills.org/Nature-At-Home

Materials needed: Journal or paper and pencil

Basic birding doesn't mean you need binoculars or special equipment to look at birds. You may want to take your journal or paper and pencil. You can look and listen in your own backyard.

Don't be worried about trying to figure out the name of the bird, instead focus on what it looks like and what behaviors it's doing. Eventually you may want to learn the name of the bird, but you will find out a lot more about the bird this way.

Birds can fly by very quickly. When you see a bird, try to notice things about the bird's shape, color, the environment it's in, or anything else of interest to you.



When I'm out birding, I write in my journal these three observations about the birds I see:

I Notice....

I Wonder

It reminds me of

These observations may help me figure out what the birds are doing. Especially notice what type of beak and feet they have. A bird that climbs a tree has a very different foot than a bird that swims in the water. A bird that eats seeds will have a different beak than a bird that eats meat. You might want to make some sketches in your journal of what you saw as well.

When you are outside, take the time to look around and listen for birds. You can help hear something by doing "deer" ears, cupping your hands around your ears in the direction of the noise.



If you would like to share your drawings or journal writings email: Education@DishmanHills.org