

# Bird Facts



## Wren

1. Eat spiders and insects.
2. They nest in tree cavities or dense bushes or shrubs.
3. They are year-round resident of Southeastern United States.
4. They use their bill to push vegetation out of the way as they look for food.
5. Wrens help control the insect and spider populations.

## Kinglet

1. They migrate in the spring and fall.
2. They live in coniferous and deciduous forests and urban yards.
3. When searching for flying insects they hover over branches and shrub.
4. In the winter they will eat insects and their eggs, Spiders and their eggs, hardened seeds and various fruit.
5. They help humans by controlling insect populations.

## Sparrow

1. In 1851 100 sparrows were brought from England and released in Brooklyn, NY. This made them the first of their species to arrive in North America.
2. They prefer to live in areas that humans have modified-like farms, urban settings, and residential settings.
3. Their nests are built in the crevices inside of and on buildings and coniferous and deciduous trees.
4. Forage for food on the ground.
5. Meals are made of various dried seeds and insects.

## Finch

1. In the 1940's a shipment of house finches was brought to Long Island, New York.
2. In the Eastern US they are only found near urban and suburban areas.
3. Their diet consists almost exclusively of grains, seeds, buds and fruits.
4. They are important seed predators and distributors.
5. Some like to forage on the ground for food.

## Robin

1. Some migrate and others stay in the southeastern part of the US all year.
2. Food searching takes place in areas of open ground or short grasses.
3. Dense shrubs and small trees are where they like to build their nests.
4. They can be found in woodlands, gardens, orchards, lawns and fields.
5. Robins benefit humans by eating insects and dispersing seeds.

## **Woodpeckers**

1. Downy woodpeckers are the smallest woodpeckers in North America.
2. They can be found in young forests, farms, and residential areas.
3. They are omnivores. This means they will eat insects, fruits, and seeds.
4. Downy woodpeckers gather insects from the surfaces of trees, shrubs and large weeds, and crevices in trees. They will even drill holes in a tree searching for food.
5. They impact the insect and plant populations they eat for food.

## **Chickadee**

1. They are only found in North America.
2. Chickadee can be found in forest, parks, wood, and your backyard.
3. They're omnivores, enjoying animals and plants. In the spring, caterpillars are their favorite food.
4. Each year they create a new cavity in a tree where they will build their nest. Other animals may use their previous cavity to build their nest.
5. Sometimes they eat seeds and berries. This helps humans with seed distributions.

## **Cardinal**

1. They live in several habitats including the edges of woods, swamps, riverside thickets, city gardens and residential areas.
2. Nests are often built on the branches of dense bushes and shrubs.
3. They eat mainly weed and sunflower seeds, grains, and fruits.
4. They assist humans by dispensing seeds and killing some insects.
5. The cardinal is the Virginia State bird.

## **Blue Jay**

1. They enjoy mixed wooded areas, parks and suburban areas.
2. They are aggressive and noisy birds. This allows them to scare other birds away from the food source.
3. Blue jays hide far more food than they can eat, perhaps to hide food from other birds.
4. These birds are omnivorous. They feed on fruits, nuts, seeds, insects, mice, frogs, and will rob other nests for small songbirds and bird eggs.
5. Sometimes they forget where they hid the extra food. This helps with the dispersion of seeds to other areas.

## **Nuthatch**

1. White-breasted nuthatches live in deciduous woodlands and deciduous and/or coniferous forests. They prefer older dense forests-maybe some with oak trees.
2. They can be found crawling up and down trees looking for food.
3. Nuthatches get their name because they place large seeds and nuts into crevices of trees and then pry them open with their bills.
4. They help control insects in the summer and dispense seeds.
5. They nest in large holes found in trees.