



Week 1: What Makes a Bird a Bird?

Classification of birds within the animal kingdom
Defining features of birds
The role of birds in ecosystems

Week 2: Built for the Sky

Adaptations in skeletal structure for flight
Specialized digestive & respiratory systems
Flight muscles and sternum design

Week 3: Feathered for Flight

Types of feathers and their functions
Molting & feather maintenance
Detailed feather anatomy

Week 4: Beaks, Feet, and Bird Tools

Beak and foot structures for feeding and locomotion
Tools for climbing, swimming, hunting, and digging
Behaviors linked to tool use and environmental adaptation

Week 5: Birds that Talk and Dance

Differences between birdsong and calls
Bird dances and mating displays
Flocking behavior

Week 6: Wings Across the World

Why birds migrate
Major types of migration and
How birds travel across continents and elevations

Week 7: Home Sweet Nest

- Types of bird nests and how structure meets function
- How birds use tools and materials to build
- Nesting locations, timing, and reproduction
- Parental care and development of chicks

Week 8: Exam

Week 9: Waders, Swimmers, and Shoreline Stalkers

- Adaptations for wetland and shoreline habitats
- Specialized legs, bills, and feet for feeding and movement
- Aquatic feeding strategies: dabbling, diving, grazing, and filtering
- Shared traits: feather waterproofing and salt-removal glands

Week 10: Fierce Fliers of the Sky & Night

- Shared characteristics of birds of prey
- Differences between diurnal and nocturnal raptors
- Specialized adaptations for hunting by day and by night
- Ecological roles: apex predators and scavengers

Week 11: Birds that Sing

- Why songbirds make up 60% of bird species
- Communication through songs and calls
- Mimicry and flocking behavior
- Backyard birds and human adaptation

Week 12: From High-Flyers to Fast Peckers

- Beak and tongue adaptations for feeding
- Woodpecker drumming and shock-absorbing skulls
- Hummingbird hovering and energy demands
- Swifts and their unique lifestyles

Week 13: Birds with Big Brains

- Parrots' mimicry and problem-solving abilities
- Crows and ravens using tools
- Pigeons' homing skills and survival tactics

Week 14: Flightless Wonders

Why certain birds lost flight and how they adapt

Penguins, ostriches, kiwis, and cassowaries

Unique survival strategies in extreme environments

Week 15: Fading Feathers: Extinct Birds and on the Brink

Famous extinct birds and their stories

Endangered species and conservation efforts

Successes and challenges in bird conservation

Week 16: Exam