Observing Birds in the Wild Scavenger Hunt Look for the behaviors listed below. Check those you find and try to identify the species. If you don't know the species, list some identifying features. Check Identification Behavior Singing or calling (mostly males) Preening (sometimes it looks as if it is nibbling, tugging, or combing its feathers with its beak) Bathing in water Soaring Flying Perched on a limb or branch Hovering in mid-air (wings beating rapidly) Swimming Walking or hopping on the ground Diving or tipping up its rump in the water Standing on the ground Wading in water Feeding Flying with a worm or insect in its mouth Flying with or gathering twigs, grasses, leaves, string, etc. Perched on the edge of its nest Climbing a trunk or branch Hanging upside down from a branch Chiseling into the side of a tree or branch Perching on a wire, fence post, or tree snag over an open area A group of birds perching together on an electrical wire A group of birds flocking together Other (list behavior)