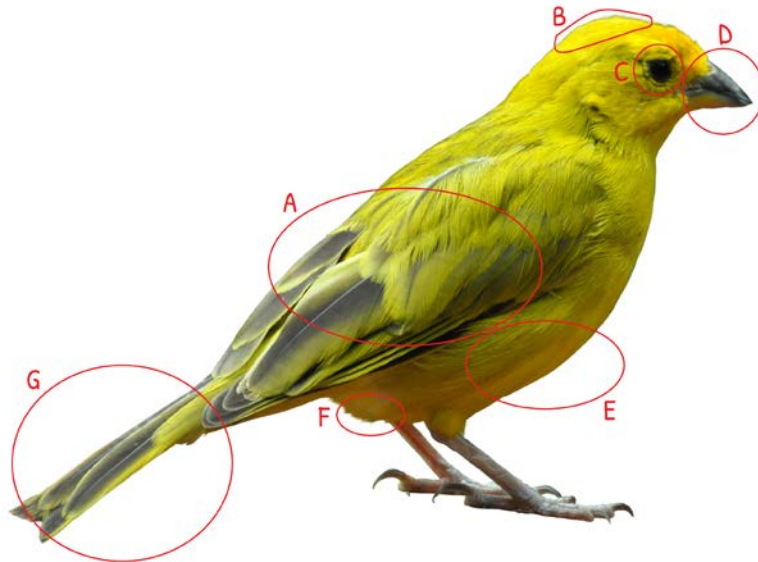


An Introductory Guide to Birdwatching – Birds 101

Part A – Identifying a bird

1. This is a picture of a bird.



Identify the external body parts of a bird by filling in the blanks below.

Body part A: W _ _ _ _

Body part B: _ _ r _ _ _ n

Body part C: _ _ _ _

Body part D: _ _ _ _ k

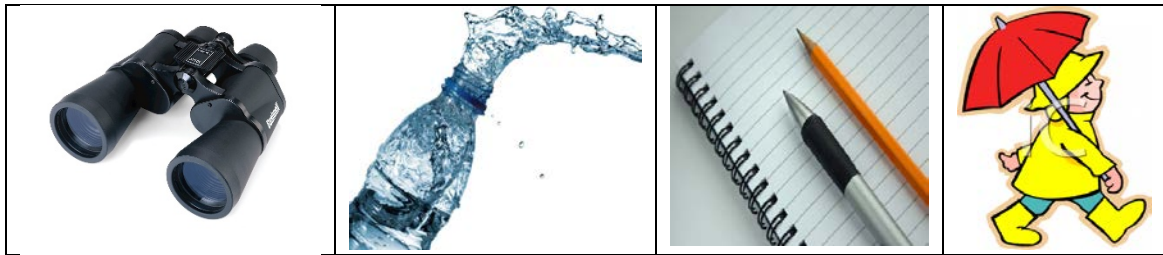
Body part E: _ _ _ e _ _ _ t

Body part F: V _ _ _ _

Body part G: _ _ _ i _ _

Part B – Things needed to conduct birdwatching

Identify the things needed for birdwatching.



Part C – Methods to conduct birdwatching

Things to take note:

1. Be observant. Birds can be found easily in areas that are not obvious (eg. Leaves of a tree, a thick bush).

Do keep out a keen eye on birds and any movement in bushes, trees or plants as they may be hiding.

2. Do not make any loud noises as it may scare away the birds around you.

3. Try not to step on noise-making items such as dead leaves as the sound may be loud and may scare the birds away.

4. Do not try to fidget or make any unnecessary actions when doing the point count.

5. Constantly drink water when you feel thirsty during birdwatching.

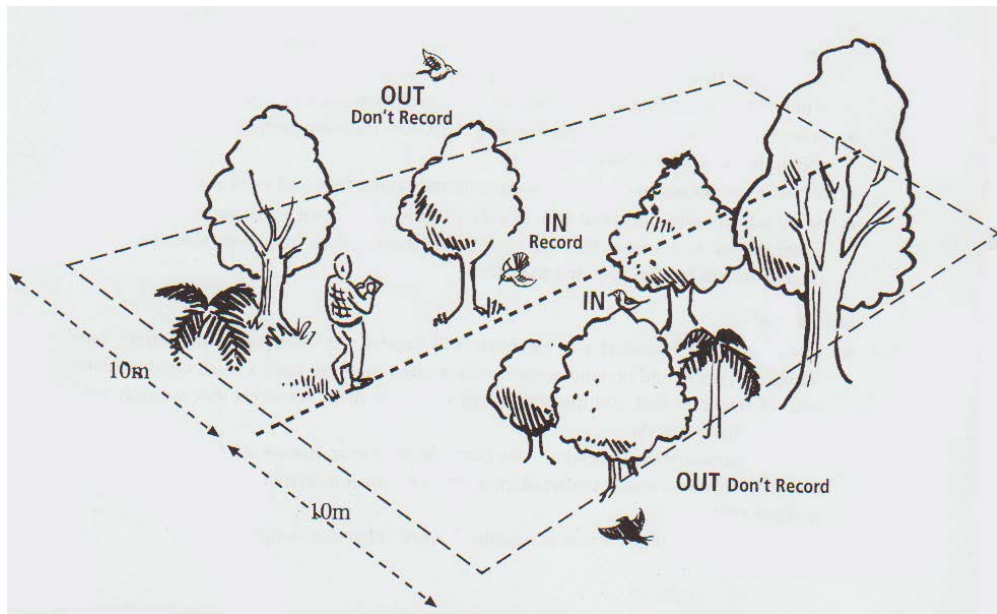
6. Do not try to harm the birds or chase them.

7. Do not feed the birds during birdwatching.

8. If there are any birds that you cannot recognise while birdwatching, do take down any features of the bird on writing paper. Noting down the bird's body parts can help you to identify the bird later.

9. It is alright to take pictures of birds but using flash is highly not recommended as it may scare the bird.

Method 1: Line transect



Step 1: Choose a part of a path to walk along.

Step 2: Choose the distance between the surroundings and you to observe.

Taking the picture as an example, the birdwatcher only looks at the birds that are spotted 10 metres to the left and right of him.

Step 3: Slowly walk down your chosen path with a slow and steady pace. Do look out for birds that are to the side and front of you.

Step 4: When a bird within your chosen area is spotted, identify the bird and note it down on writing paper. Do **not** record any birds spotted outside the designated area.

Step 5: Record spotted birds that were seen to the right, left and those that fly towards you. Do **not** record any birds that fly in the same direction as your walking.

Method 2: Point count



Step 1: Choose a certain spot in the venue to do the point count. A place surrounded by trees and plants is recommended.

Step 2: Stand in your chosen spot and constantly look around for any birds in the surroundings of the point count.

Step 3: Try to remain as still as possible when doing the point count.

Step 4: Any bird that is seen in your surroundings should be recorded.