



1. **DESCRIPTION:** Participants will be assessed on their knowledge of North American birds.

**A TEAM OF UP TO:** 2

**APPROXIMATE TIME:** 50 minutes

2. **EVENT PARAMETERS:**

- Each team may bring one 2" or smaller three-ring binder, as measured by the interior diameter of the rings, containing information in any form and from any source along with one commercially produced field guide not contained in the binder. Sheet protectors, lamination, tabs and labels are permitted in both the binder and field guide.
- If the event features a rotation through a series of stations where the participants interact with samples, specimens or displays; no material may be removed from the binder throughout the event.
- In addition to a binder, each team may bring one unmodified and unannotated copy of either the **2022** National Bird List or a **2022** Official State Bird List which does not have to be secured in the binder.

3. **THE COMPETITION:**

- The competition may be run as timed stations and/or as a timed slides/PowerPoint presentation.
- Specimens/pictures will be lettered or numbered at each station. The event may include preserved specimens, skeletal material, recordings of songs, and slides or pictures of specimens.
- For each station, Regional tournaments will have questions about 1 bird per station, State tournaments will use no more than 2 birds per station, and the National Tournament may use 3 or more birds per station.
- Each team will be given an answer sheet on which they will record answers to each question.
- No more than 50% of the competition will require giving order, family, and/or common name.
- Participants should be able to do basic identification to the level indicated on the Official List. States may have a modified state or regional list. See your state web site.
- States may have a modified state or regional list which will be posted on the state website no later than November 1st.
- The National competition will be based on the **2022** National Bird List.
- Each specimen will have one or more questions accompanying it on some aspect of its life history, distribution, anatomy and physiology, reproduction, habitat characteristics, ecology, diet, behavior, conservation and biogeography.
- The ecology questions may pertain to any ecological aspect of the species, including behavior, habitat, niche, symbiotic relationships, trophic level, adaptive anatomy such as bill size and shape, migration, distribution or occurrence (e.g., rare, common, special concern, endangered).

4. **SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:**

- Identify the order, family, and/or common name of the provided sample.
- What conclusion can be drawn about the habitat(s) of the given specimens?
- Which of these animals does not fit within this taxon?
- What unique anatomical feature distinguishes the animal shown in the picture?
- Consider the potential impact of human activities on the survival of birds.

5. **SCORING:**

- High score wins.
- Selected questions may be used as tiebreakers.

**Recommended Resources:** The Science Olympiad Store ([store.soinc.org](http://store.soinc.org)) carries a variety of resources to purchase for this event; other resources are on the Event Pages at [soinc.org](http://soinc.org)



**Kingdom – ANIMALIA**

**Phylum – CHORDATA**

**Subphylum – VERTEBRATA**

**Class - AVES**

**Family Group (Family Name)**

**Common Name**

**ORDER: Anseriformes**

**Ducks, Geese, and Swans (Anatidae)**

Black-bellied Whistling-duck

Snow Goose

Canada Goose

Trumpeter Swan <sup>F</sup>

Wood Duck

Mallard <sup>F</sup>

Northern Shoveler

Green-winged Teal

Canvasback

Hooded Merganser

**ORDER: Galliformes**

**Partridges, Grouse, Turkeys, and Old**

**World Quail (Phasianidae)**

\*Ring-necked Pheasant

Ruffed Grouse <sup>F</sup>

Wild Turkey

**New World Quail (Odontophoridae)**

Northern Bobwhite <sup>F</sup>

**ORDER: Gaviiformes**

**Loons (Gaviidae)**

Red-throated Loon

Common Loon <sup>F</sup>

**ORDER: Podicipediformes**

**Grebes (Podicipedidae)**

Pied-billed Grebe

Red-necked Grebe

**ORDER: Procellariiformes**

**Albatrosses (Diomedidae)**

Laysan Albatross

Shearwaters and Petrels

(Procellariidae)

Northern Fulmar

**ORDER: Pelecaniformes**

**Pelicans (Pelecanidae)**

American White Pelican

**Bitterns, Herons, and Allies (Ardeidae)**

American Bittern <sup>F</sup>

Great Blue Heron

Snowy Egret

Green Heron

Black-crowned Night-heron

**Ibises and Spoonbills**

(Threskiornithidae)

Roseate Spoonbill

**ORDER: Suliformes**

**Cormorants (Phalacrocoracidae)**

Double-crested Cormorant

**Darters (Anhingidae)**

Anhinga

**Frigatebirds (Fregatidae)**

Magnificent Frigatebird

**ORDER: Ciconiiformes**

**Deep-water Waders (Ciconiidae)**

Wood Stork

**ORDER: Falconiformes**

**Caracaras and Falcons (Falconidae)**

Crested Caracara

American Kestrel

Peregrine Falcon

**ORDER: Accipitriformes**

**Osprey (Pandionidae)**

Osprey

**Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies**

(Accipitridae)

Bald Eagle <sup>F</sup>

Northern Harrier

Cooper's Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk <sup>F</sup>

Golden Eagle

**ORDER: Cathartiformes**

**New World Vultures (Cathartidae)**

Turkey Vulture

California Condor

**ORDER: Gruiformes**

**Rails, Gallinules, and Coots (Rallidae)**

Clapper Rail

Sora <sup>F</sup>

Purple Gallinule

American Coot

**Cranes (Gruidae)**

Whooping Crane <sup>F</sup>

**ORDER: Charadriiformes**

**Lapwings and Plovers (Charadriidae)**

American Golden-Plover

Killdeer <sup>F</sup>

**Oystercatchers (Haematopodidae)**

American Oystercatcher

**Stilts and Avocets (Recurvirostridae)**

Black-necked Stilt

American Avocet

**Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and Allies**

(Scolopacidae)

Spotted Sandpiper

Ruddy Turnstone

Dunlin

Wilson's Snipe

American Woodcock

**Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers (Laridae)**

Laughing Gull <sup>F</sup>

Ring-billed Gull

Herring Gull

Least Tern

Caspian Tern

Black Tern

Black Skimmer

**Auks, Murres, and Puffins (Alcidae)**

Common Murre

Tufted Puffin

**ORDER: Columbiformes**

**Pigeons and Doves (Columbidae)**

Mourning Dove <sup>F</sup>

Common Ground-Dove

\*Rock Pigeon

**ORDER: Cuculiformes**

**Cuckoos, Roadrunners, and Anis**

(Cuculidae)

Black-billed Cuckoo <sup>F</sup>

Greater Roadrunner

1) Special Characters: <sup>F</sup> indicates vocalizations that may be tested & \* indicates an introduced, widespread Species

2) The taxonomic scheme is based upon the 7th edition Checklist of North American Birds, American Ornithologists' Union, and [www.allaboutbirds.org](http://www.allaboutbirds.org)  
Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology.



## ORDER: Strigiformes

### Barn Owls (*Tytonidae*)

Barn Owl

### Typical Owls (*Strigidae*)

Great Horned Owl <sup>F</sup>

Snowy Owl

Barred Owl <sup>F</sup>

Screech Owl

## ORDER: Caprimulgiformes

### Nightjars and Allies (*Caprimulgidae*)

Chuck-will's-widow <sup>F</sup>

Common Nighthawk

## ORDER: Apodiformes

### Swifts (*Apodidae*)

Chimney Swift

### Hummingbirds (*Trochilidae*)

Ruby-throated Hummingbird <sup>F</sup>

## ORDER: Coraciiformes

### Kingfishers (*Alcedinidae*)

Belted Kingfisher <sup>F</sup>

## ORDER: Piciformes

### Woodpeckers and Allies (*Picidae*)

Red-headed Woodpecker

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Downy Woodpecker

Northern Flicker <sup>F</sup>

Pileated Woodpecker

## ORDER: Passeriformes

### Tyrant Flycatchers (*Tyrannidae*)

Olive-sided Flycatcher

Eastern Phoebe

Vermilion Flycatcher

Great Crested Flycatcher <sup>F</sup>

Eastern Kingbird

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

### Shrikes (*Laniidae*)

Loggerhead Shrike

### Vireos (*Vireonidae*)

Warbling Vireo

Red-eyed Vireo

### Jays and Crows (*Corvidae*)

Steller's Jay

Blue Jay <sup>F</sup>

Black-billed Magpie

American Crow <sup>F</sup>

Common Raven

### Larks (*Alaudidae*)

Horned Lark

### Swallows (*Hirundinidae*)

Purple Martin

Cliff Swallow

Barn Swallow

### Chickadees and Titmice (*Paridae*)

Black-capped Chickadee <sup>F</sup>

Tufted Titmouse <sup>F</sup>

### Nuthatches (*Sittidae*)

Red-breasted Nuthatch <sup>F</sup>

White-breasted Nuthatch

### Creepers (*Certhiidae*)

Brown Creeper

### Wrens (*Troglodytidae*)

Cactus Wren

Marsh Wren

Carolina Wren <sup>F</sup>

### Dippers (*Cinclidae*)

American Dipper

### Kinglets (*Regulidae*)

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

### Gnatcatchers (*Poliophtilidae*)

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

### Thrushes (*Turdidae*)

Eastern Bluebird

Wood Thrush <sup>F</sup>

American Robin <sup>F</sup>

### Mockingbirds and Thrashers

(*Mimidae*)

Gray Catbird

Northern Mockingbird <sup>F</sup>

Brown Thrasher

### Waxwings (*Bombycillidae*)

Cedar Waxwing

### Wood-Warblers (*Parulidae*)

Yellow Warbler

Magnolia Warbler

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Black-throated Green Warbler

Black-and-white Warbler

American Redstart

Ovenbird

Kentucky Warbler

Common Yellowthroat <sup>F</sup>

### New World Sparrow

(*Passerellidae*)

Spotted Towhee <sup>F</sup>

Black-chinned Sparrow

Lark Sparrow

Harris's Sparrow

White-crowned Sparrow

Chipping Sparrow

Dark-eyed Junco

### Longspurs and Buntings (*Calcariidae*)

Lapland Longspur

Snow Bunting

### Cardinals and Allies (*Cardinalidae*)

Northern Cardinal <sup>F</sup>

Indigo Bunting

Painted Bunting

Scarlet Tanager

### Blackbirds (*Icteridae*)

Bobolink

Red-winged Blackbird <sup>F</sup>

Western Meadowlark <sup>F</sup>

Yellow-headed Blackbird

Common Grackle

Brown-headed Cowbird

Baltimore Oriole <sup>F</sup>

### Fringillids and Allies (*Fringillidae*)

Red Crossbill

American Goldfinch

Evening Grosbeak

House Finch

Pine Siskin

### Old World Sparrows (*Passeridae*)

\*House Sparrow

### Old World Starlings (*Sturnidae*)

\*European Starling

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