



STORY TIME

RUBY'S BIRDS RESOURCES

Story Time Description

Nature is everywhere...even in a city. Most places where humans live, birds can live too. Today I'm reading *Ruby's Birds* by Maya Thompson. Ruby is a little girl who uncovers the wild side of her city neighborhood and with the help of her neighbor she's becoming a brand-new bird watcher. She lives in New York City near Central Park, one of the best places in the world to observe birds. You can find more than 280 kinds of birds there. You can find lots of bird's right outside where you live if you know where to look and listen!

Children's Fiction and Non-Fiction Books about Birds

- *Birds* by Carme Lemniscates
- *Beginners Birdwatchers Book* by Sy Barlowe
- *Bird Count* by Susan Edwards Richmond
- *Counting Birds: The Idea That Helped Save Our Feathered Friends* by Heidi E.Y. Stemple
- *Nesting* by Henry Cole
- *You Nest Here With Me* by Jane Yolen
- *Have You Heard the Nesting Bird* by Rita Gray
- *Bird Builds a Nest: A First Science Story Book* by Martin Jenkins
- *This is the Nest That the Robin Built* by Denise Fleming
- *The Nest That Wren Built* by Randi Sonenshine
- *Whose Nest?* By Guy Troughton
- *A Nest is Noisy* by Dianna Hutts Aston
- *An Egg is Quiet* by Dianna Hutts Aston
- *A Baby Bird* by Andrew Gibbs
- *Spit and Sticks: A Chimney Full of Swifts* by Marilyn Grohoske Evans
- *The Busy Tree* by Jennifer Ward
- *Owl Babies* Martin Waddell
- *Little Home Bird* by Jo Empson
- *Hooray for Birds!* By Lucy Cousins
- *Feathers for Lunch* by Lois Ehlert
- *Feathers: Not Just for Flying* by Melissa Stewart
- *Mama Built a Little Nest* by Jennifer Ward

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1800 Lakeside Avenue
Richmond, VA 23228
804.262.9887
lewisginter.org

- *It's Spring* by Linda Glaser
- *Bear and Bird* by James Skofield
- *Flute's Journey* by Lynne Cherry
- *George Flies South* by Simon James
- *A Bird is a Bird* Lizzy Rockwell
- *Are You My Mother?* by P.D. Eastman
- *No Two Alike* by Keith Baker
- *Birds* by Kevin Henkes
- *Birdsongs* by Besty Franco and Steve Jenkins
- *Sounds of Nature: World of Birds* by Robert Frank Hunter
- *Where's the Party?* by Katherine Crawford Robey
- *Bird Watch* by Christie Matheson
- *About Birds: A Guide for Children* by Cathryn Sill
- *Outside My Window: Birds* by Ernestine Giesecke
- *Bird Songs: 250 North American Birds in Song*
- *Backyard Birds* by Stan Tekiela
- *Common Backyard Birds* by Doris Dumrauf
- *Our Yard is Full of Birds* by Anne Rockwell
- *Bateman's Backyard Birds* by Robert Bateman
- *City Hawk* by Meghan McCarthy
- *City Birding: True Tales of Birds and Birdwatching in Unexpected Places* by Ken Kaufman
- *Birds in Flight: The Art and Science of How Birds Fly* by Carrol L. Henderson

Other Useful Bird Related Resources

- <http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/search.aspx>
- Birds of North America 100 Piece Memory Game
- *Birds Coloring Book* by Bob Schamerhorn
- Audubon's Plush Birds – Plush birds are available through Audubon's Adoption Center program. You can also find them at Wild Republic and Amazon.com. For the store nearest you, call 800-800-9678.
- www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/studying/birdsongs
- www.birdlanguage.com

***Birding with Kids, You Don't Have to be an Expert* an article written by Jennifer L. Bristol**

You can access this resource and others by visiting www.findingnature.org

Racism as an Environmental Issue, Nature as a Healing Source
an article written by Trish O’Kane

You can access this resource and others by visiting
www.findingnature.org

Apps for Birding

- iBird Pro www.ibird.com
- eBird www.ebird.org
- Merlin www.MerlinBirdID.com
- www.iphotobirds.com

Richmond Audubon Society

www.richmondaudubon.org

The Richmond Audubon society promotes the enjoyment, understanding, and preservation of birds, other wildlife, and habitat through education, advocacy, and fellowship.

Birds & Blooms Magazine

www.birdsandblooms.com

Birds & Blooms is the #1 bird and garden magazine in North America with more than 1 million subscribers. This magazine covers a wide range of topics such as attracting hummingbirds, building birdhouses, gardening for butterflies, feeding birds for less, growing veggies, tales of readers’ birding experiences, plus a whole lot more.

Birds Watchers Digest Magazine

www.birdwatchersdigest.com

For more than 30 years, *Bird Watcher’s Digest* has been entertaining and informing bird watchers with our blend of excellent feature articles, bird species profiles, accounts of birding adventures, and stunning art and photography. Each issue of *BWD* covers a variety of topics including bird feeding, birding hot spots, choosing birding gear, and improving your bird-spotting and identification skills.

National Wildlife Federation

www.nwf.org

Great resources for turning your outdoor space into a spot that supports local wildlife? Use the tip sheets and videos to guide you in creating a go-to garden for butterflies, birds, and other animals.

YouTube

- All About Birds for Children: Animal Learning for Kids – Free School
- All About Birds – Swbanimals
- Bird Sounds for Kids – Part 1
- Identify Your Common Backyard Birds

Child-Friendly Field Guides

- *Birds of Virginia* by Sean Tekiela
- *Songbirds* by Jonathan Latimer and Karen Stray Notling
- *Virginia Birds A Folding Pocket Guide*
- *Birds, Eggs, and Nests* by Mel Boring
- *Bird Guide of North America* by Jonathan Alderfer
Published by National Geographic Kid
- *Stokes Beginners Guide to Birds:* by Donald and Lillian Stokes

Help Cornell Scientist Study Birds (Citizen Science Project)

www.feederwatch.org

Anyone interested in birds can participate: children, families, individuals, classrooms, retired persons, youth groups, nature centers, and bird clubs. Feederwatch participants count the birds they see at their feeders and send their counts to Project FeederWatch. Children can count birds as often as they wish. The schedule is completely flexible. All you need is a bird feeder, birdbath, or plantings that attract birds.

Become a Nest Watcher (Citizen Science Project)

www.nestwatch.org

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch program is an excellent way for your child to tune into the natural world and contribute to a widespread citizen science project. NestWatch helps people of all ages and backgrounds connect with nature. The information that NestWatchers collect allows scientists to understand the impact that various threats, such as environmental change and habitat destruction, have on breeding birds. Armed with this knowledge, scientists can take the necessary steps to help birds survive in this changing world.

Exploration – Take a Walk in Your Backyard and Neighborhood

As you walk, look for birds or signs of birds. While you are on your birdwatching walk you can look for birds and signs of birds such as:

- A nest up in the tree branch
- Seeds that a bird will eat (have eaten)
- Holes that a woodpecker made in a tree trunk
- Birds – different colors, shapes, and sizes. Can you spot a cardinal, robin, or goldfinch?
- Swimming birds, flying birds, birds running or pecking for food on the ground.

What Children Learn on a Birdwatching Walk?

- To be engaged in nature through supported discovery
- Knowledge about local birds and their habitats
- Improved observation and focusing skills

Thing to do at Home to Reinforce a Positive Connection between Children, Nature and Birds:

- Learn how to walk quietly and watch carefully for birds
- Learn where to look for and listen to birds
- Learn about bird language
- Learn about different types of birds
- Check out bird field guides, bird songs CD's and books from your local library
- Take daily walks to your local park, through your neighborhood, and backyards to observe birds (do this during different seasons)
- Have binoculars handy for both children and adults
- Have field guides available
- Create a “bird sit spot” in your yard or in your neighborhood to observe and listen to birds and nature
- Create a scrapbook of birds that you have sighted in your area
- Hang birdfeeders in your yard and add birdbaths
- Plant native plants in your yard to attract birds and other pollinators
- Participate in citizen science projects about birds
- Provide non-fiction books and concrete materials about birds
- Remember you don't have to be an expert birdwatcher to bird watch with young children
- Utilize resources from this post

