



# BIRDS

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## **BLUE JAY (*CYANOCITTA CRISTATA*)**

### Habitat

- Mostly near oak trees and forest edges
- Urban and suburban areas

### Food

- Glean insects and take nuts and seeds in trees
- Dead or injured small vertebrates

### Behavior

- Complex social systems and tight family bonds
- Communicate vocally and through body language
- High crest, high aggression



## **CAROLINA WREN (*THRYOTHORUS LUDOVICIANUS*)**

### Habitat

- Frequently vegetated habitats
- Gravitate toward shrubby, wooded residential areas

### Food

- Insects and spiders, sometimes plant matter

### Behavior

- Alone or in pairs and groups
- Use curved bills to turn over decaying vegetation and shake apart large bugs
- Stay on ground mostly



## **EASTERN BLUEBIRD (*SIALIA SIALIS*)**

### Habitat

- Open country around trees with little understory
- Common along pastures, fields, parks

### Food

- Insects (caterpillars, beetles crickets, grasshoppers...) and fruit (sumac, blueberries, black cherry...)
- Rarely salamanders, shrews, snakes, lizards

### Behavior

- Perch on wires and fence posts





## **GREAT BLUE HERON (*ARDEA HERODIAS*)**

### Habitat

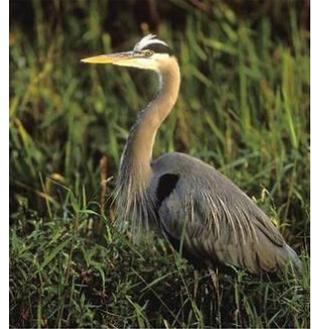
- Freshwater and saltwater habitats, sometimes grasslands and agricultural fields

### Food

- Nearly anything within striking distance (fish, reptiles, insects, birds)

### Behavior

- Wades slowly or stands still watching for prey
- In flight neck folds in "S" shape
- Elaborate courtship rituals



## **MOURNING DOVE (*ZENAIIDA MACROURA*)**

### Habitat

- Open country, scattered trees, woodland edges

### Food

- Seeds, grains, nuts

### Behavior

- Feed on the ground and in the open
- Preen with gently neck nibbling progressing to head-bobbing in unison



## **NORTHERN CARDINAL (*CARDINALIS CARDINALIS*)**

### Habitat

- Dense shrubby areas
- Nest in dense foliage and perch high for singing

### Food

- Seeds, fruit, insects

### Behavior

- Hop through low branches and forage on or near the ground
- Sing and preen from high branch of shrub
- Crest raises during agitation





## **GREAT EGRET (*ARDEA ALBA*)**

### Habitat

- Found in both fresh and saltwater habitats
- Nests high in trees

### Food

- Small fish, amphibians, birds, and small mammals, crayfish, prawns, shrimp, worms, isopods, dragonflies, beetles, water bugs, and grasshoppers

### Behavior

- Wade in shallow water to hunt, then stands still to watch for prey to pass by.
- High speed with its long neck and bill



## **WHITE IBIS (*EUDOCIMUS ALBUS*)**

### Habitat

- Loves marshes and wetlands

### Food

- Mainly insects but also small fish and amphibians

### Behavior

- Like the Great Egret, it wades in shallow water to hunt, then stands still to watch for prey to pass by



## **TUFTED TITMOUSE (*BAELOPHUS BICOLOR*)**

### Habitat

- Deciduous woods, orchards, parks
- Low elevations

### Food

- Mainly insects (caterpillars, beetles, ants, wasps...)
- Seeds and berries

### Behavior

- Flit from branch to branch of canopy looking for food
- Hold seeds with feet and hammer open with beaks
- Can hang upside down or sideways





## **TURKEY VULTURE (*CATHARTES AURA*)**

### Habitat

- Open areas, along roadsides and at landfills
- Roost on high secluded spots

### Food

- Carrion (mostly mammals but sometimes reptiles and fish)
- Preferably dead animals, never attack living prey

### Behavior

- Slow, teetering flight style
- On ground move with ungainly hops
- Feed one at a time



## **NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD (*MIMUS POLYGLOTTOS*)**

### Habitat

- Found in parks, forest edges, and open land at low elev.
- Can be found in towns, suburbs, backyards

### Food

- Mainly insects
- Will eat fruits in fall and winter when insect supply is low

### Behavior

- Enjoys making its presence known
- Sits on high vegetation, fences, eaves, or telephone wires
- Runs and hops on the ground, will chase intruders off their territory



## **COOPER'S HAWK (*ACCIPITER COOPERII*)**

### Habitat

- Wooded habitats, deep forests
- Leafy subdivisions and backyards

### Food

- Snakes, turtles, frogs, lizards, salamanders
- Small birds and rodents, crayfish, insects

### Behavior

- Flap, flap, glide pattern
- Flies fast and low to the ground when hunting





## SPIDERS & INSECTS

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### SPIDERS

#### **SIX-SPOTTED FISHING SPIDER (*DOLOMEDES TRITON*)**

##### Habitat

- Shallow, quiet water

##### Food

- Mainly insects sometimes small fish, frogs, tadpoles

##### Behavior

- Can "walk" on water
- Do not build webs
- Females will eat males if they're already mated

##### Size

- 2.5 in



#### **WOLF SPIDER (*RABIDOSA RABIDA*)**

##### Habitat

- Open grasslands, suburban lawns, deciduous forests, sandy soil and wet terrain

##### Food

- Mainly insects

##### Behavior

- Live on ground and hunt for prey at night
- Do not spin webs

##### Size

- 2.2 - 35.0 mm



### DRAGONFLIES

#### **BLUE DASHER (*PACHYDIPLAX LONGIPENNIS*)**

##### Habitat

- Ponds, lakes, marshes, bogs, still water
- Larvae highly tolerant of poor water wetlands

##### Food

- Tiny flying insects

##### Size

- 25-43 mm





### **CALICO PENNANT (*CELITHEMIS ELISA*)**

#### Habitat

- Ponds, lakes with marshy borders

#### Food

- Forage in fields

#### Size

- 3.0 cm



### **EASTERN PONDHAWK (*ERYTHEMIS SIMPLICICOLLIS*)**

#### Habitat

- Primarily ponds

#### Food

- Small flying insects

#### Size

- 36-48 mm



### **COMMON GREEN DARNER (*ANAX JUNIUS*)**

#### Habitat

- Ponds, lakes, marshes, bogs, still water
- Males have blue abdomen, whereas females have purple abdomens.

#### Food

- Tiny flying insects

#### Size

- 25-43 mm





## BUTTERFLIES

### LITTLE WOOD SATYR (*MEGISTO CYMELA*)

#### Habitat

- Grassy woods and openings

#### Food

- Sap, aphid honeydew, and flower nectar

#### Wing Span

- 1 ½ - 1 7/8 in



### BUCKEYE (*JUNONIA COENIA*)

#### Habitat

- Open, sunny areas with low vegetation

#### Food

- Nectar from aster, chickory, gumweed, knapweed

#### Wing Span

- 1 5/8 – 2 ¾ in



### RED ADMIRAL (*VANESSA ATALANTA*)

#### Habitat

- Moist woods, yards, parks, marshes

#### Food

- Sap flows on trees, fermenting fruit, and bird droppings

#### Wing Span

- 1 ¾ - 3 in



### MONARCH (*DANAUS PLEXIPPUS*)

#### Habitat

- Prairies, meadows, roadsides, and grasslands

#### Food

- Sap flows on trees, fermenting fruit, and bird droppings

#### Wing Span

- 1 ¾ - 3 in



## AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES

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### AMPHIBIANS

#### NORTHERN CRICKET FROG (*ACRIS CREPITANS*)

##### Habitat

- Shallow ponds with vegetation and full sun or shallow gravel-lined creeks

##### Behavior

- Diurnal and active all year
- Will jump quickly away when threatened



#### SOUTHERN LEOPARD FROG (*RANA UTRICULARIA*)

##### Habitat

- Shallow, freshwater habitats

##### Behavior

- Nocturnal
- Avoids predators by entering the water and swimming away



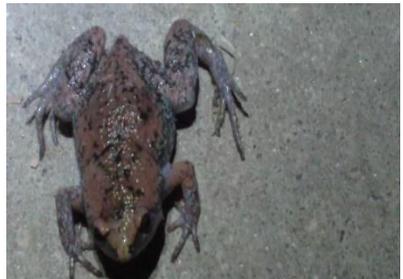
#### EASTERN NARROWMOUTH TOAD (*GASTROPHRYNE CAROLINENSIS*)

##### Habitat

- Secretive and usually found by overturning boards or logs in woodland habitats

##### Behavior

- Breeds in the summer in temporary bodies of water, including puddles and roadside ditches
- Males make calls using only their snout protruding from the water and are often hard to locate
- The call of the narrowmouth toad is a long, nasal, high pitched “waaaaaaaaaaaaah”





## REPTILES

### **GREEN ANOLE (*ANOLIS CAROLINENSIS*)**

#### Habitat

- Arboreal, but ubiquitous

#### Behavior

- Both males and females have bright red dewlaps for territorial and mating displays
- Can change color when threatened or stressed



### **SOUTHERN COPPERHEAD (*AGKISTRODON CONTORTRIX CONTORTIX*)**

#### Habitat

- Woodland habitats

#### Behavior

- Will bite and inject its venom when threatened



# MAMMALS

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## MAMMALS

### ARMADILLO (*DASYPUS NOVEDECINTUS*)

#### Habitat

- Brush, woods, scrub and grasslands

#### Behavior

- Prolific diggers, digs many burrows as well as for food
- Cannot survive where the soil is too hard to dig
- Eats insects and other invertebrates, as well as berries and bird eggs



### COMMON RACCOON (*PROCYON LOTOR*)

#### Habitat

- Bushy or wooded areas near streams, lakes or swamps

#### Behavior

- Very intelligent creatures, will lose their fear if humans if well-intentioned people try to give them food
- Excellent night vision and an acute sense of hearing, they are very agile climbers and strong swimmers
- Exclusively nocturnal



### WHITE TAILED DEER (*ODOCOILEUS VIRGINIANUS*)

#### Habitat

- Mixtures of trees, shrubs, vines, forbs, grasses and other plants such as fungi and sedges
- Woody vegetation

#### Behavior

- Superior senses, can detect slightest dangers
- Wide range of vision (310 degrees), picks up the slightest moves
- Will run away with its tail up, warning other deer of dangers
- Will rub antlers on trees to leave scent



## VEGETATION

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### TREES

#### LIVE OAK (*QUERCUS VIRGINIANA*)

##### Habitat

- Well drained soils on the southern coastal plain

##### Characteristics

- Large, stately tree, commonly 50 feet tall
- Large twisting limbs grow from the trunk that can spread more than 100 feet and can touch the ground

##### Uses

- Hard, strong and tough wood
- Used in shipbuilding and for wagon wheel hubs



#### LOBLOLLY PINE (*PINUS TAEDA*)

##### Habitat

- Grows in slightly acidic soils (pH: 4.5-7.0)
- Very common in North America

##### Characteristics

- Grows in a straight column

##### Uses

- Major timber crop
- Cheap and easy species often used in reclamation



#### WATER OAK (*QUERCUS NIGRA*)

##### Habitat

- Grows in heavy, compacted soils in wet, swampy areas

##### Characteristics

- Can tolerate poorly and well drained soils

##### Uses

- Is used to restore bottomland hardwood forests
- Provides excellent shade coverage





## SHRUBS

### AMERICAN BEAUTYBERRY (*CALLICARPA AMERICANA*)

#### Habitat

- Grows under canopy
- Found in bottomlands and on swamp edges

#### Characteristics

- Bright purple berries that remain on bush until winter
- The green foliage turns yellow in autumn

#### Uses

- The purple berries are edible by wildlife and humans



## OTHER PLANTS

### LATE-FLOWERING BONESET (*EUPATORIUM SERATINUM*)

#### Habitat

- Grows in loamy soils

#### Characteristics

- Small, white blossoms grown in clusters

#### Uses

- Attracts butterflies
- Provides nectar for pollinators



### WESTERN RAGWEED (*AMBROSIA PSILOSTACHYA*)

#### Habitat

- Found in disturbed areas, especially alongside highways
- Very common in North America

#### Characteristics

- Ovular green-brown burs, hairy or spiny

#### Uses

- Ritually used by Native American tribes

