

BIRD STUDY MERIT BADGE



The following requirements would be much easier to finish before coming to camp. Please bring the completed sheets with you and present them to your counselor as proof that you have completed the requirements.

Requirement 5. For this requirement you are asked to observe and be able to identify **at least 20** species of wild birds. You need to prepare a field notebook and make an entry for each bird you identify. Use the following layout as your field notebook model. Record all information specified for this requirement.

Bird Name: _____ **Date:** _____ **Time:** _____

Location: _____

Habitat: _____

Bird's main feeding habit: _____

Two types of food the bird is likely to eat. Food 1: _____ **Food 2:** _____

Bird is (circle one): Migrant resident - Summer resident - Winter resident - Year-round resident to your area

Requirement 7. You have been given two options for this requirement. Select and complete one of them.

IF YOU SELECTED OPTION A: Go on a field trip with a local club or with others who are knowledgeable about birds in your area.

Date of field trip: _____ **Location:** _____

Make a list of all the birds your group observed during the field trip.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Explain why some of the species you saw were common.

Bird Study Merit Badge (Continued)

Explain why some of the species you saw were present in small numbers. _____

Describe the area you visited on your field trip and tell why this area is good for finding birds. _____

IF YOU SELECTED OPTION B: By using a public library or contacting the National Audubon Society, find the name and location of the Christmas Bird Count nearest your home. What were the results of the most recent count?

What kinds of information are collected during the annual event? _____

What species are most common? _____

What species are most uncommon? _____

Why are these birds present in small numbers? _____

If the number of birds of this species is decreasing, explain why. _____

What, if anything, can be done to reverse their decline? _____

Name _____ District and Troop Number _____