

# Did you ever Wonder...

## Where birds get their colors?



### Who are Steller's Jays?

Kingdom: \_\_\_\_\_

Phylum: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Order: \_\_\_\_\_

Family: \_\_\_\_\_

Genus: Cyanocitta

Species: Stelleri

**Fun fact:** The average hummingbird has over 900 feathers on its body!

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### Word of the Day: Endotherm

Definition: An animal that can make its own heat.

Break it down: Endo:

Therm:

Try using it in a sentence:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

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### Two truths and a lie:

Circle which of these three bird "facts" you think is a lie!

- 1) Steller's Jays, Steller's Sea-Eagles and Steller's Sea Lions are all named after the same person
- 2) Steller's Jays are blue because they eat blueberries
- 3) Flamingos are pink because they eat crustaceans

### Joke of the day:

**Q.** Why do seagulls fly over the sea?

**A.** Because if they flew over the bay they would be bay-gulls!



## Backyard bird scavenger hunt

Use your senses to try to find these birds, check off the ones you see or hear. If you know the bird, write down its name. If you don't know the bird, write down a few things about it (size, color, pattern, body shape where you saw it) and try to discover who it is! A few online resources to help your identification include What Bird and All About Birds by the Cornell lab.

You can bird watch anywhere! On your balcony, in your backyard, or even from your window! Try watching and listening at different times of the day to notice when you see different birds. If you are outside. Try to sit very still, some birds are shy and may think you are a predator!

### Look for:

A bird with a red breast (bonus: What pigment causes reds, pinks and oranges?)

A white bird (bonus: What color do you think it's skin is?)

A bird with a light underside and a darker back

A bird with yellow on its head

A bird that looks like it is blue (bonus: Do you remember why it looks blue to our eyes?)

A bird with camouflage colors (bonus: Who do you think this bird is hiding from?)

A bird with spots or stripes, or both!

A bird with iridescent feathers (bonus: Count how many colors you can see on the bird!)

A bird with a different colored head

### Listen for:

A woodpecker drumming

A bird whose call you recognize

A bird whose call you don't know (bonus; try to figure out who it could be!)

**Draw a picture of a bird that is eating something tasty!**



The Swan Lake Team would love to see your creations; send your finished pictures to [klillico@swanlake.bc.ca](mailto:klillico@swanlake.bc.ca)