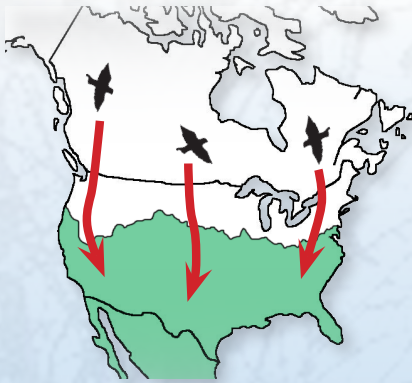




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Winter Wanderers



Migration is the movement of a group of animals from one place to another. As snow and ice begin to cover areas of Canada and the northern United States, some types of birds **migrate** to warmer areas in the southern United States, Mexico and South America. These winter migrants often mix with flocks of local birds to help them find food! **Can you spot any of the following winter migrants where you live?**



Dark-eyed Junco
Juncos are sometimes called "snowbirds" because they appear every year as winter sets in. They are usually found in small flocks searching for seeds on the ground.

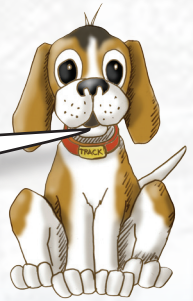


White-throated Sparrow
Like Juncos, White-throated Sparrows also like to feed on the ground and can be found mixing with other sparrows and cardinals.



Golden-crowned Kinglet
The tiny Golden-crowned Kinglet usually mixes with flocks of chickadees and titmice. Kinglets like to feed up in the trees, especially pines and evergreens.

Now that winter is here, many of the birds in your neighborhood have probably traveled south for warmer weather. But did you know that some new birds might be wandering down from the north to spend the winter in your backyard?



Red-breasted Nuthatch
Red-breasted Nuthatches have a funny habit of walking down tree trunks head-first! They tend to mix with other nuthatches, chickadees, and woodpeckers.



Pine Siskin
Pine Siskins travel in small, noisy flocks and can usually be found mixing with goldfinches and house finches. They can be identified by the bright patch of yellow in their wings.

Make a bird feeder!

Putting out a bird feeder is a great way to get a closer look at the birds in your backyard. Here are a few ideas for easy bird feeders you can make at home!

Punch holes on either side of a plastic soda bottle, and stick a twig all the way through with its ends sticking out for perches. Poke more holes nearby for the birds to pull the seeds out. Then hang the bottle by tying a string around the neck.



Coat a pine cone with peanut butter, roll it in birdseed, and hang it from a tree branch.

Scatter seeds on a stump or railing that is near trees and bushes that birds can use for cover.

