

# HINTS FOR BIRD IDENTIFICATION

1. What **color** is the bird?
  - ground or in a tree?
  - Does it bob its tail?
  - Is the bird by itself or with a group?
  - Does it share space with other birds, or does it chase other birds away?
2. What **size** is the bird? Is it larger than, smaller than, or the same size as:
  - A Sparrow?
  - An American Robin?
  - An American Crow?
3. What **shape** is the bird?
  - Is it chunky or slender?
  - Does it have a crest?
  - Is its tail long or short compared to its body?
  - Is the beak long or short? Slender or thick?
4. What are the bird's **field marks**?
  - Does it have stripes?
  - What color are the stripes?
  - Where are the stripes? On the tail? On the wings?
  - Does it have any marks on its head?
  - Does it have any other markings?
5. How does the bird **behave**?
  - Does the bird eat on the
6. Can you hear **songs or calls**?
  - Did you hear the bird's song or call?
7. Other observations.
  - What did the habitat look like?
  - What else did you observe?