







# I, Spy...BIRDS!

Can you find any of these birds that are often found at Bluff Lake in the Spring?

Put a check mark in the box when you spot one!

<div data-bbox="87 369 162 449" style="border: 1px solid black; width: 46px; height: 38px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> <div data-bbox="196 369 446 441" style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Mallard</b> (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)</p> </div> <p><u>Where to look:</u> Bluff Lake, Sand Creek</p> <div data-bbox="100 594 548 940">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most abundant of all ducks</li> <li>• Male is the colorful one and has yellow bill</li> <li>• Female is brown with orange bill</li> </ul>	<div data-bbox="570 369 644 449" style="border: 1px solid black; width: 46px; height: 38px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> <div data-bbox="662 369 977 441" style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>American Wigeon</b> (<i>Mareca americana</i>)</p> </div> <p><u>Where to look:</u> Bluff Lake, Sand Creek</p> <div data-bbox="574 600 1029 940">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather in groups and can be quite noisy</li> <li>• The American Wigeon is also known as "baldpate" because the white stripe resembles a bald man's head.</li> </ul>	<div data-bbox="1052 369 1127 449" style="border: 1px solid black; width: 46px; height: 38px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> <div data-bbox="1182 369 1396 441" style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Gadwall</b> (<i>Mareca strepera</i>)</p> </div> <p><u>Where to look:</u> Bluff Lake, Sand Creek</p> <div data-bbox="1057 600 1524 949">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likes to steal food from diving ducks after they surface</li> <li>• Often overlooked because they don't have flashy colors</li> </ul>
<div data-bbox="87 1205 162 1285" style="border: 1px solid black; width: 46px; height: 38px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> <div data-bbox="196 1205 446 1318" style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Red-winged Blackbird</b> (<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>)</p> </div> <p><u>Where to look:</u> Cattail Marsh, Shortgrass Prairie, Riparian Woods</p> <div data-bbox="107 1461 540 1810">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Musical three note call</li> <li>• The males perch on branches and define their territory by singing</li> <li>• Usually found by water</li> </ul>	<div data-bbox="570 1205 644 1285" style="border: 1px solid black; width: 46px; height: 38px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> <div data-bbox="662 1205 961 1276" style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Common Grackle</b> (<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>)</p> </div> <p><u>Where to look:</u> Bluff Lake, Sand Creek, Riparian Woods, Flying Overhead</p> <div data-bbox="574 1455 1029 1824">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Song is squeaky and not very musical</li> <li>• Eats insects, seeds and even smaller birds!</li> </ul>	<div data-bbox="1052 1205 1127 1285" style="border: 1px solid black; width: 46px; height: 38px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> <div data-bbox="1157 1205 1421 1276" style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Canada Goose</b> (<i>Branta Canadensis</i>)</p> </div> <p><u>Where to look:</u> Bluff Lake, Sand Creek, Flying Overhead</p> <div data-bbox="1057 1455 1515 1797">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wingspan can reach over 6 feet, can weigh as much as 20 pounds</li> <li>• Often mate for life</li> <li>• Make nests near water</li> </ul>



### **Black-capped Chickadee**

*(Parus atricapillus)*

Where to look: Riparian Woods



- It constantly says its own name “chickadee dee dee”
- A lively, curious, and entertaining bird that hops, jumps, and swings in foliage



### **American Robin**

*(Turdus migratorius)*

Where to look: Shortgrass Prairie, Riparian Woods , Flying Overhead



- Forages on the ground for earthworms and other insects
- Robin’s song is very cheery and familiar



### **Barn Swallow**

*(Hirundo rustica)*

Where to look: Everywhere



- Very social, travel and eat in flocks
- Very skilled fliers who can catch insects while flying!



### **Red-Tailed Hawk**

*(Buteo jamaicensis)*

Where to look: Riparian Woods, Flying Overhead



- Often seen making circles in the sky while searching for prey
- Eats small rodents, reptiles, amphibians, birds, and insects



### **American Goldfinch**

*(Carduelis tristis)*

Where to look: Shortgrass Prairie, Riparian Woods



- Often referred to as “wild canaries”
- Can live in almost any environment: country, city, or suburb, coast to coast.



### **Black-billed Magpie**

*(Pica pica)*

Where to look: Riparian Woods



- Named after the sound they make “mag, mag, mag”
- Sometimes kept as pets, and can be taught to imitate human sounds!