



# Como Lake Birds in the Spring

Northern Flicker (male)



European Starling



Black-capped Chickadee



Song Sparrow



Red-winged Blackbird (male)



American Robin



Canada Goose



Mallards



Tips to find these birds...

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## Find these birds by...



listening to their songs and calls...

**Northern Flicker:** [https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Northern Flicker](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Northern_Flicker)

**Red-winged Blackbird:** [https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Red-winged Blackbird](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Red-winged_Blackbird)

**Chickadee:** [https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black-capped Chickadee](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black-capped_Chickadee)



looking for where they hang out...

In the sky or tree: European Starling. They usually fly in a group.

Up in the tree: Northern Flicker, Black-capped Chickadee, song sparrow

In marshes: Red-winged blackbird

Swimming in the lake: Mallard



watching when they fly...

**Male Red-winged Blackbird:** a bright red spot on black body

**Male Northern Flicker:** a white rump patch

## Fun facts...

Questions:

1. Are Northern flickers a type of songbird or woodpecker?  
a. songbird    b. woodpecker
2. Do Black-capped chickadees like to be alone or socialize?  
a. Alone    b. socialize
3. European starlings change their bill colour. What is their bill colour in summer? and in winter?    a. Yellow    b. Blackish

Answers:

1. b. Woodpeckers have long pointed beaks to tap on trees and then can use their very long tongues to reach for insects or sap.
2. b. Chickadees are quite social and constantly chatting. Other birds rely on chickadees to watch for danger, so they have more time to focus on foraging.
3. Yellow in the summer; blackish in the winter.

Reference: Sibley, D. A. (2020). *What it's like to be a bird* (1st ed.). Knopf.

## Calling all young birders...

Send your Como Lake bird photos or drawings to [burkemtnnats@gmail.com](mailto:burkemtnnats@gmail.com). They may be selected for the next newsletter or scavenger hunt! By submitting your photo(s)/drawing(s), you give permission to Burke Mountain Naturalists Society to use the photograph/drawing.