



MILLENNIUM
ROOTS SCHOOLS



Birds of
PAKISTAN
National Birds Awareness
School Campaign



Beyond the Classroom Learning Initiative

Montessori - Grade 7

Transforming Schools Into Learning Community

Birds of PAKISTAN



DOVE

It has short sturdy legs and a soft plumage with a small head, a large breast bone and a stocky build. It is a symbol of peace. Has been used as pet and food both. It meets regarded as remedy for paralytic ailmen.



PIGEON

It belongs to the dove family, and has a plump body and large flight muscles in its chest. In the past it was served as food and carried messages. Of its 300 varieties several are found almost everywhere in this country.



PARROT

It comes in many exotic colors but the green parrot is common place. With over 300 species it is a popular pet for its loving and friendly behavior. It breeds freely in captivity, particularly the love birds i.e. budgerigars which is a hybrid variety. Most parrots can mimic a few words after they are taught to do so. In the wild they accept a leader and obey its commands. Most of them do a lot of talking among themselves. A sizeable number is exported. It is joy to keep them.



MYNA

A noisy bird related to the starling. Talking mynas are kept as pets. They imitate the human voice and can sing, talk and whistle. Of the 12 species 8 are found in Pakistan. One of the country's most popular and talked about birds.



QUAIL

The cuckoo is a slender bird, there are about 150 species, many of them of whom lay their eggs in other birds' nests, which are then hatched and their young care by other birds.

Interesting, isn't it!

NIGHTINGALE

A small reddish brown migratory bird famed for its melodious voice. It lives mainly on insects. It hops rapidly along the ground and then stands motionless as if listening intently.



CROW

The crow has glossy black feather. Bristly feathers cover the nostrils and the base of the beak. A scavenger with a keen hearing and a sharp eyesight, it eats spiders, worms, small birds, rodents, eggs, the flesh of dead animals, and our leftovers. A highly communicative and friendly bird keeping a safe distance, though. Its noise and what all it says delights us.



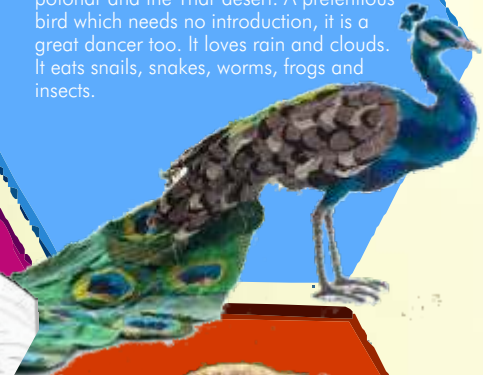
HOOPOE

A pinkish-brown bird, it has a long hooked bill, curved downwards which it uses skillfully to poke the ground or tree barks to find insect and worms. It has a brilliant, conspicuous crest on its head. It gets its head. It gets name from its loud whooping cry.



PEACOCK

Because of noticeable conservation effort, this majestic bird has a sizeable population in two major places: parts of potohar and the Thar desert. A pretentious bird which needs no introduction, it is a great dancer too. It loves rain and clouds. It eats snails, snakes, worms, frogs and insects.



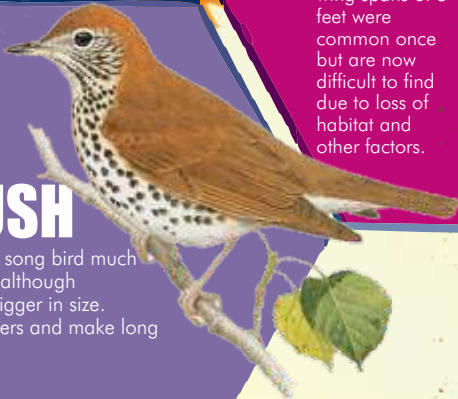
EAGLE

Once abundant, eagles are fast becoming rare and face extinction. It is a large predatory bird having become a symbol of power, courage and immortality since ancient times. Birds with wing spans of 6 feet were common once but are now difficult to find due to loss of habitat and other factors.



THRUSH

A medium size song bird much like a sparrow although considerably bigger in size. It is a strong fliers and make long migrations.



OWL



For the owl lovers, many varieties of this bird of prey are available for study. It is nocturnal animal, mainly hunting by night. Its appearance—that dish antenna shaped face and large eyes allow it to gather sound from quarry hiding deep in burrows dug in snow. Likes to live away from inhabited areas. An absolute marvelous bird, but makes one swear before allowing a good look at itself!

MATCH IT

Match the number and name it

Match the description of the bird to their photographs



CROW



OWL



PARROT



HOOPOE



Write an Acrostic Poem on Bird:

An Acrostic poem is one where you choose a word or name (as bird) and use each letter in the name as the beginning of a word or line that tells something about person or topic.

B: _____

I: _____

R: _____

D: _____

There are two major reasons why a large variety of birds, in great numbers, fill our empty skies, as well as the meadows, rivers and canal banks, bogs, lakes, forests, savannah and the grassy plains; marshlands and mangrove, mountain sides and those peripheries of towns and villages.

They are all over the place. Those perennial, indigenous ones and those visitors that come to roost during our winters, mild by their standards, traveling for thousands of miles to escape from the harsh Siberian and Tibetan winters, only flying back when the Pakistani summer heralds its arrival.

Unfortunate for the birds that despite their compactness and relatively small size and great beauty (and the lax rules that govern our wild life) one of the, i.e. Houbara Bustard is being hunted to extinction with its tormentors not prepared to concede the bird's right to live and procreate peacefully. Of the hundreds of varieties of birds found in Pakistan many are absolutely striking in looks, amazing in colors and the melodious songs they sing. Their very appear invokes in us a strong feeling of love, and a desire to become friendly and forge a close alliance with them. However, their own innate timidity and a profound mistrust and fear of humans, probably because virtually every other animal they encounter, be it a cat, or a dog, or a rat, or, worse still, a snake, they are their enemies, out to catch them or their young, in a grasp from which there is no chance of escape.

Then there are other predatory birds too, which are forever on the prowl for the defenseless bird. Most birds, in any case are small and frail, their only means of escape being flight, at which they are suitably adept, their confidence born of an ability to fly to safety.

This brings us to the art of adaptation perfected by birds those flying machines par excellence to their habitat, and the natural history that surrounds them.

Their small size and their light bones have played a major role in their survival and proliferation over tens of millions of years. Their birds have several kinds of feathers twist so that they are pushing air backwards and driving the bird's flight. When it is time to land, it uses its wings and tail like a parachute, spreading and pushing them forward to break its momentum.

“Birds watching” is among the least cumbersome of activities.

The simplest, and the earliest baptism in ornithology-plainly speaking, bird watching-may begin in the comfort of one's own home.

Lo and behold! Discovered many wonderful things about the crow and sociable bird. Notably, its timidity giving way to friendliness with those who understand their nature.

For a visitor to this beautiful country with interest in ornithology, the birds offer themselves to observation with a keenness that is hard to replicate in the animal kingdom. Each geographical region has its own varieties which have mastered their habitat like few other animals, despite heavy odds. This includes the coastal areas, the plains, desert and aird zones, reverie delta, forests, mountains and very cold regions of the north. They are all over the place. Generations of these birds have confined themselves to their habitat, rarely moving out. It is a joy to see them at home in their surroundings.

Birds are mankind's companion. They are often kept as pets and have been the subject of many works of art. We read about them in nursery rhymes and they also communicate and they also with people.

But first let us take a look at some of the birds special to Pakistan.



Choose the correct answer:

- | | | | | |
|--|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| <p>1 _____ is a scavenger means who eats flesh of dead animals.</p> | A | Parrot | B | Crow |
| <p>2 _____ plasters its nest with mud & lines it with roots, threads & grasses</p> | A | Thrush | B | Falcon |
| <p>3 A _____ is a colorful bird and a great dancer.</p> | A | Peacock | B | Myna |
| <p>4 _____ is a small brownish & highly sociable bird found abundantly in Pakistan.</p> | A | Parrot | B | Sparrow |
| <p>5 _____ is a pinkish brown bird having crest on its head.</p> | A | Hawk | B | Hoopoe |

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM LEARNING INITIATIVE