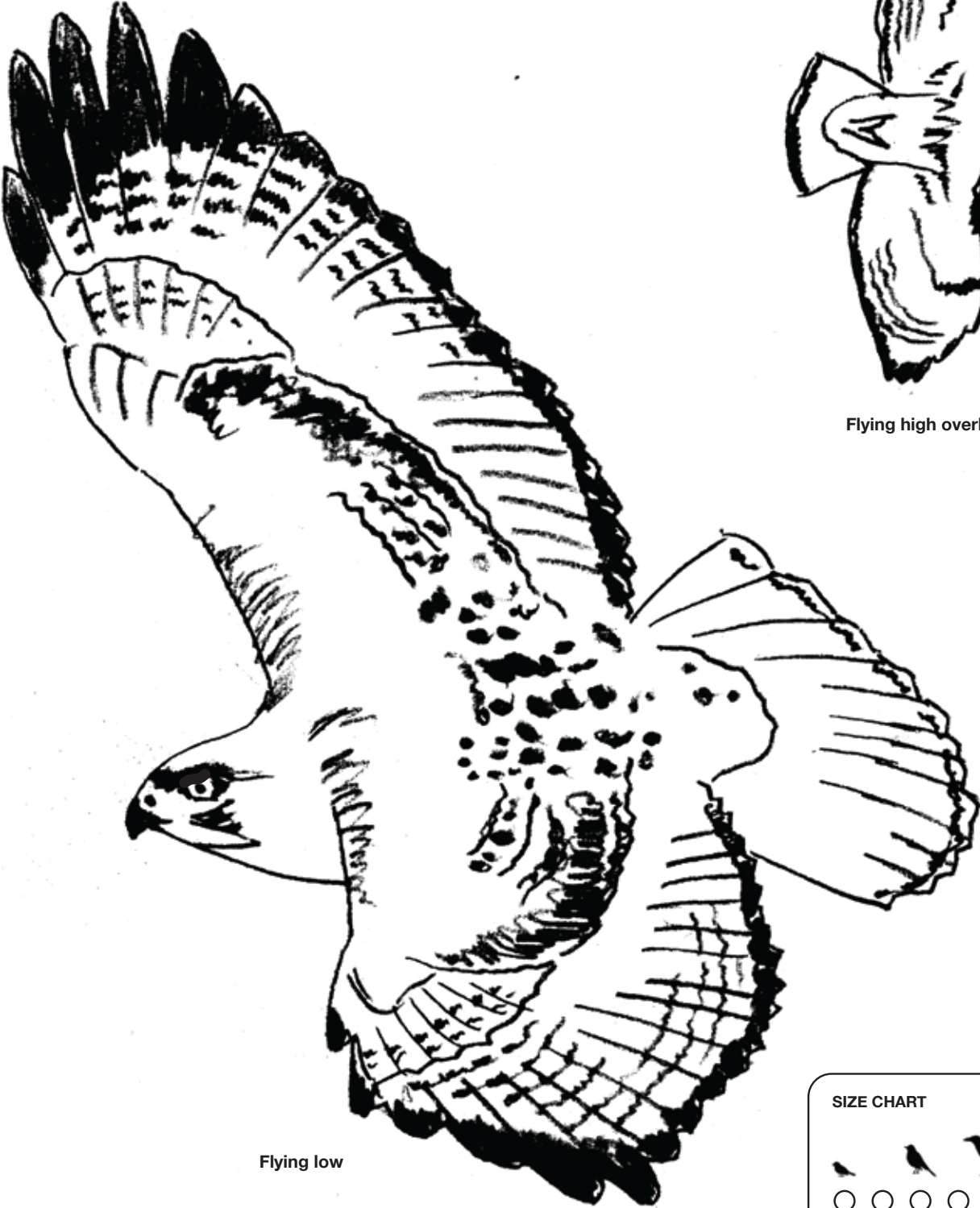


Red-tailed Hawk

- This common hawk has the best known voice in the whole bird world! It's dramatic scream is exactly what you would expect a bird of prey to sound like, which is why their calls are used whenever an eagle, falcon, or other hawk is shown in most movies or television shows.
- The Red-tailed Hawk is the most widespread hawk in North America. Keep an eye on power poles, signs on the highway, or up in the air the next time you go for a drive and you might catch this bird of prey soaring overhead. Watch for that bright red tail!



Flying high overhead



Flying low

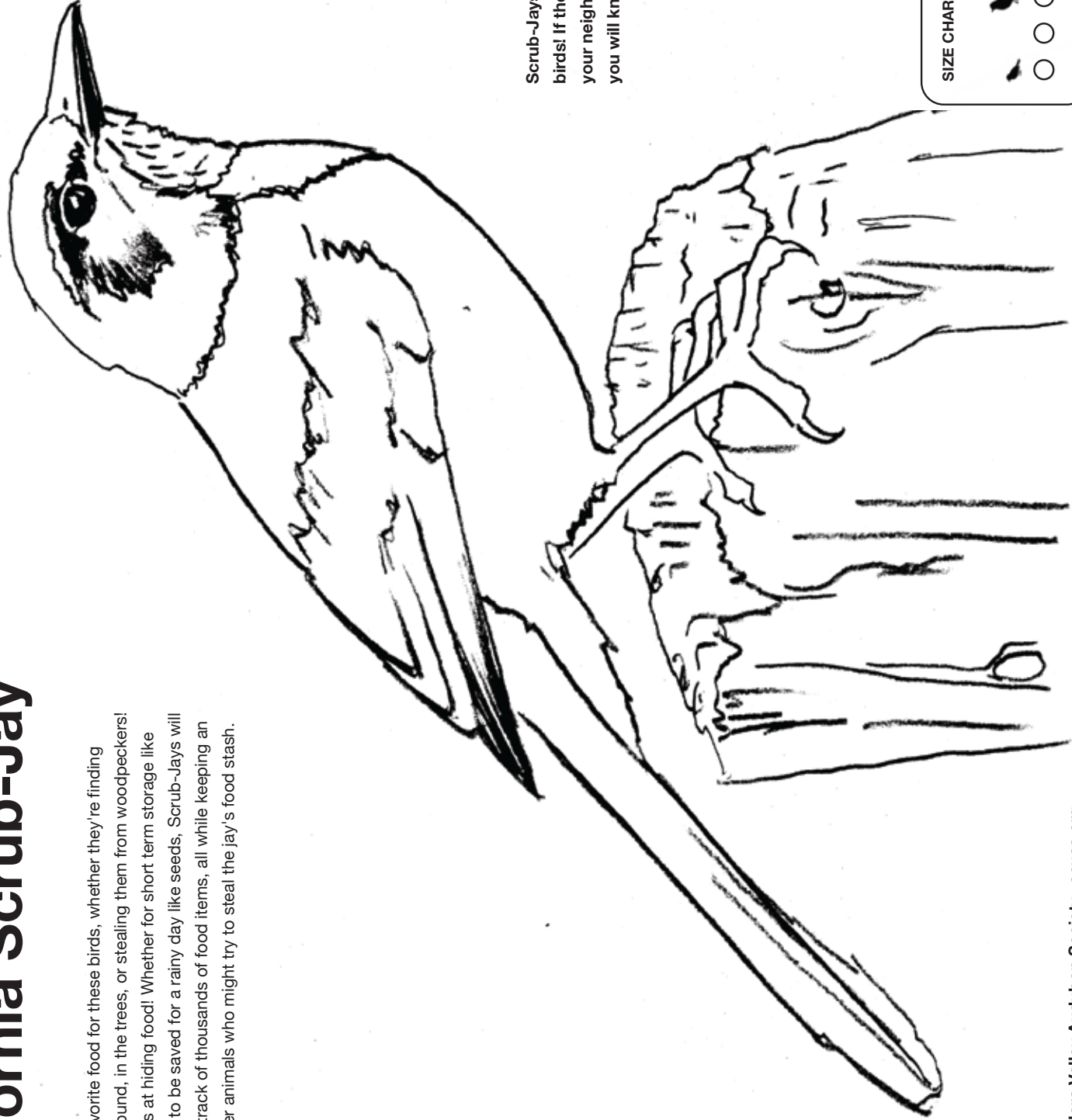
SIZE CHART

●
BIG

A size chart titled "SIZE CHART" enclosed in a rounded rectangle. It features four bird silhouettes of increasing size from left to right. Below each silhouette is a small circle. The largest silhouette on the right is accompanied by a solid black circle and the word "BIG" in bold capital letters.

California Scrub-Jay

- Acorns are a favorite food for these birds, whether they're finding them on the ground, in the trees, or stealing them from woodpeckers!
- Jays are experts at hiding food! Whether for short term storage like insects or food to be saved for a rainy day like seeds, Scrub-Jays will hide and keep track of thousands of food items, all while keeping an eye out for other animals who might try to steal the jay's food stash.



Scrub-Jays are noisy birds! If there is one in your neighborhood, you will know!

SIZE CHART

MEDIUM

House Finch

- Look for House Finches at bird feeders and in the fields!
- Male and female House Finches can be told apart based on their colors like ducks, but House Finches get their bright red and orange feathers from the foods they eat. The brighter the feathers, the better the food!



Male is red

SIZE CHART

SMALL

Northern Flicker

The male has a red patch on his face. Both male and female show beautiful red on their tails and under the wings.

- The Northern Flicker gets its name from the bright flashes or "flicks" of color that appear when this bird starts flying! Red or yellow feather shafts in the wings and tails catch the eye, but may also be enough to startle a predator looking to make a meal of this bird.
- Unlike most woodpeckers, flickers like to find their meals on the ground more than digging it out of trees, and can be seen hopping through the dirt and grass looking for insects.



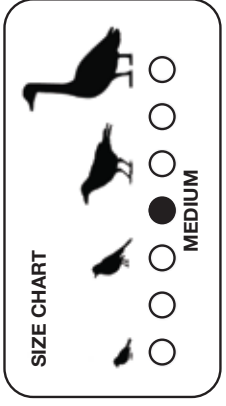
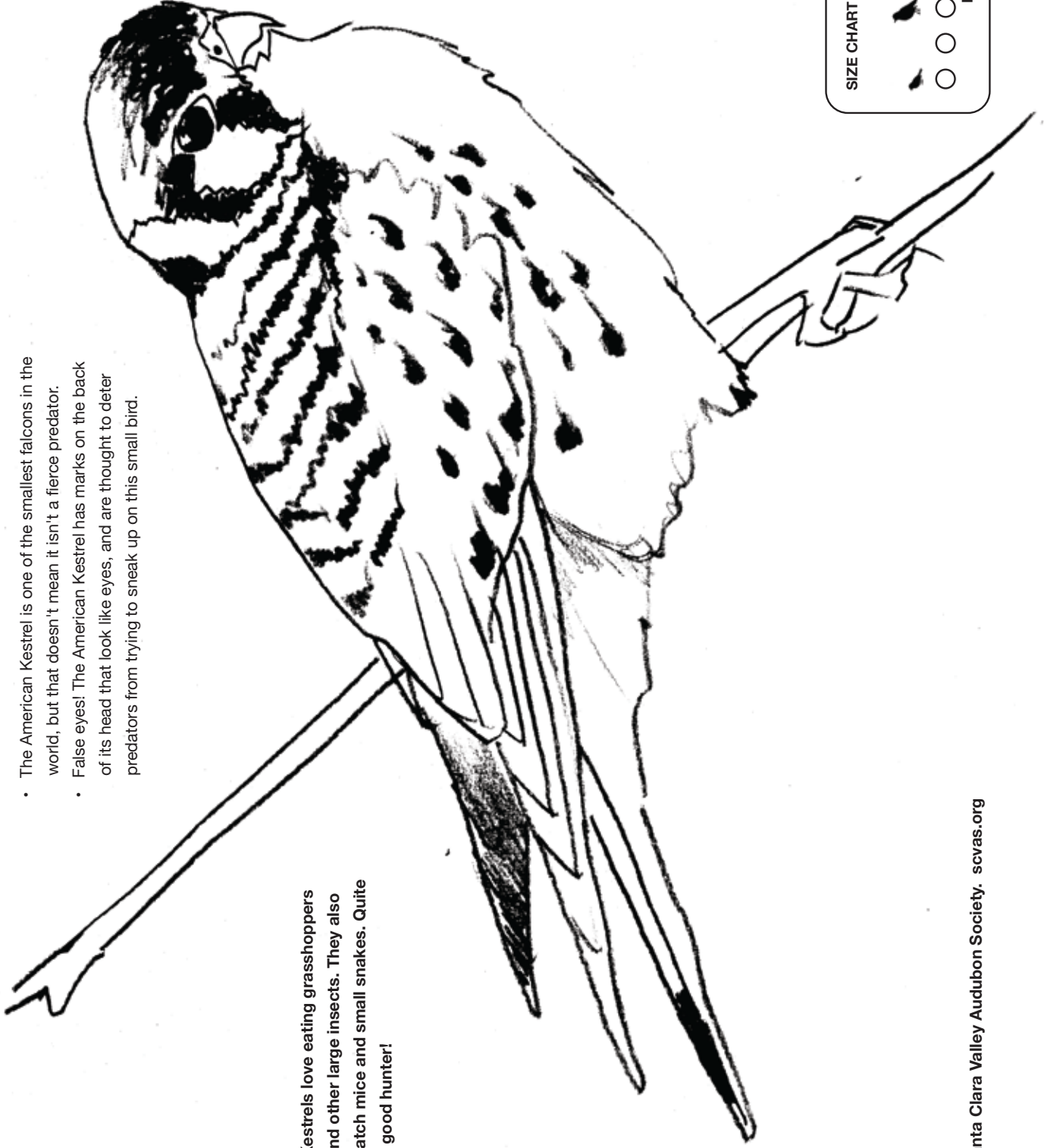
SIZE CHART

MEDIUM

American Kestrel

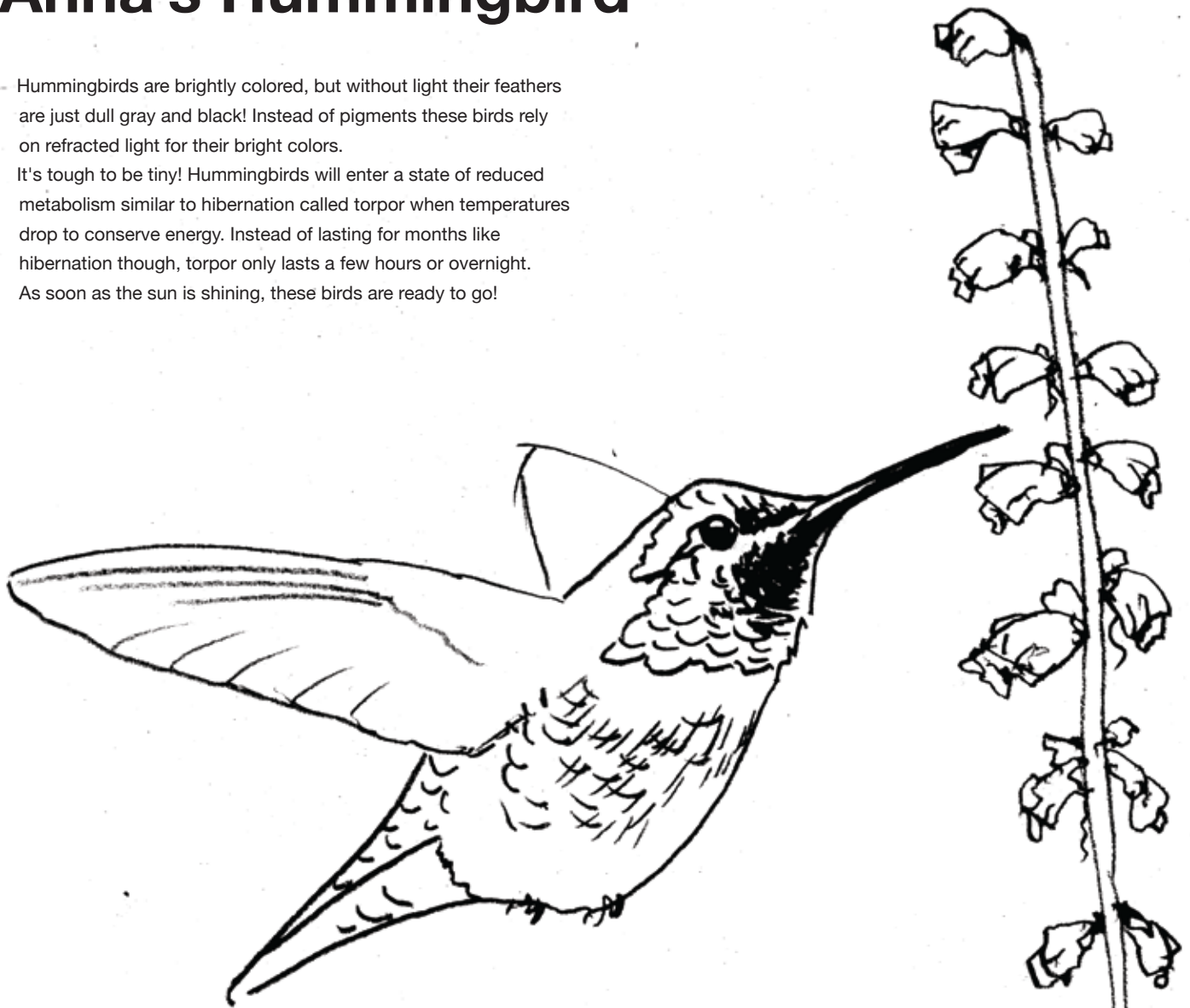
- The American Kestrel is one of the smallest falcons in the world, but that doesn't mean it isn't a fierce predator.
- False eyes! The American Kestrel has marks on the back of its head that look like eyes, and are thought to deter predators from trying to sneak up on this small bird.

Kestrels love eating grasshoppers and other large insects. They also catch mice and small snakes. Quite a good hunter!

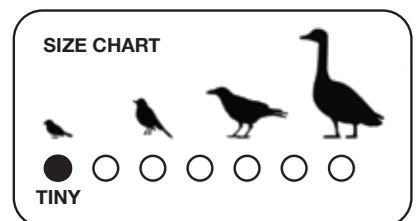


Anna's Hummingbird

- Hummingbirds are brightly colored, but without light their feathers are just dull gray and black! Instead of pigments these birds rely on refracted light for their bright colors.
- It's tough to be tiny! Hummingbirds will enter a state of reduced metabolism similar to hibernation called torpor when temperatures drop to conserve energy. Instead of lasting for months like hibernation though, torpor only lasts a few hours or overnight. As soon as the sun is shining, these birds are ready to go!



The tiny male has a metallic green back and a brilliant red throat. It hovers like a large bee drinking nectar from flowers. Females look very similar, but do not have the all red throat.



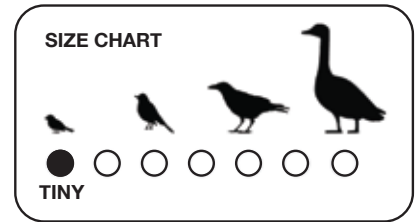
Chestnut-backed Chickadee



- Because chickadees are so social, other birds will use these small songbirds as lookouts for predators, listening for the warning calls of chickadees to alert them to danger.
- Chickadees will line their nests with fur they find, whether from squirrels, coyotes, dogs, or even skunks!

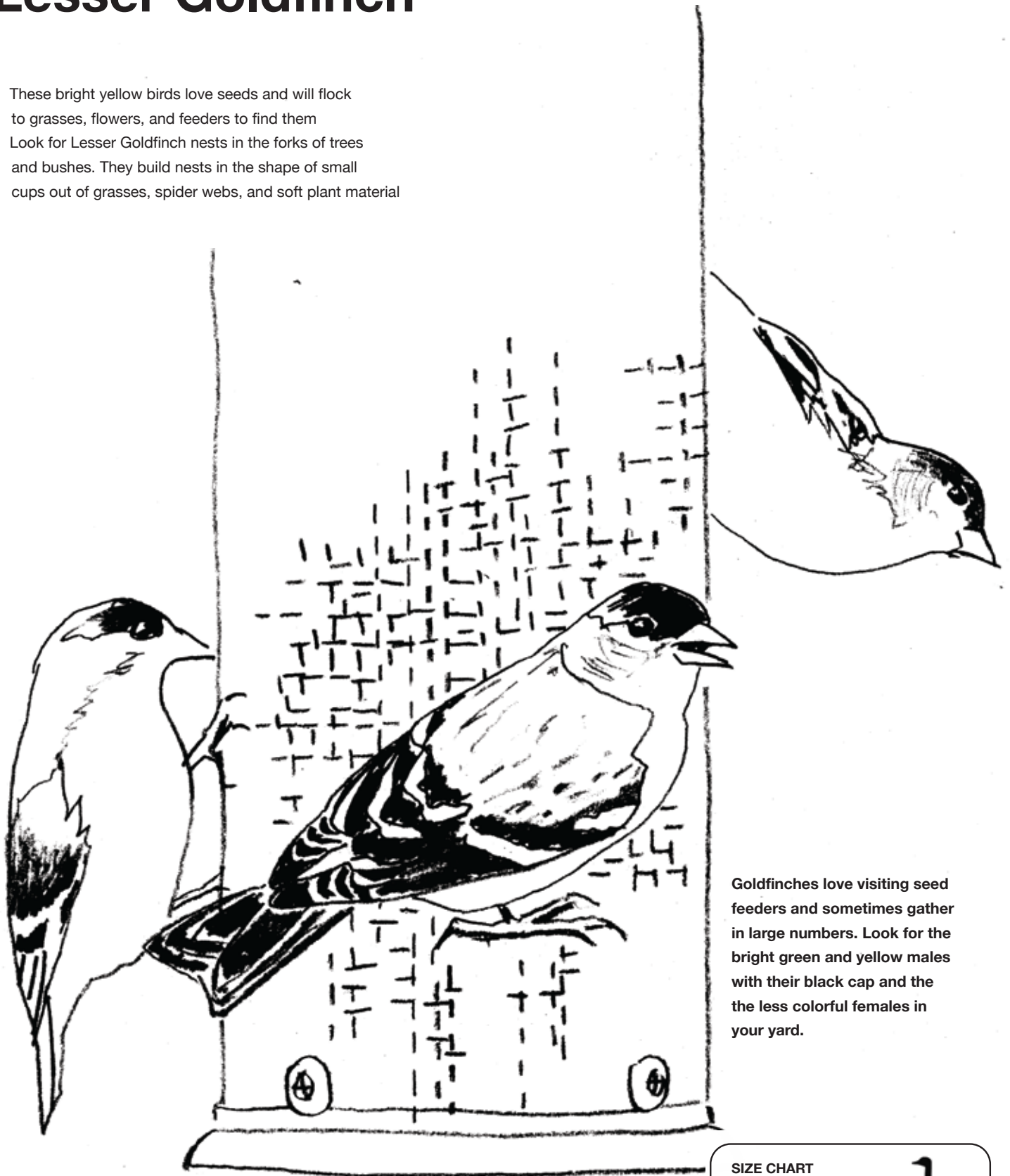


Chickadees have very strong feet and are very acrobatic. They frequently hang upside down to reach the best food at the ends of tree branches.

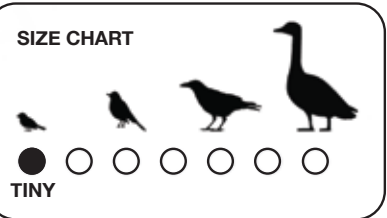


Lesser Goldfinch

- These bright yellow birds love seeds and will flock to grasses, flowers, and feeders to find them
- Look for Lesser Goldfinch nests in the forks of trees and bushes. They build nests in the shape of small cups out of grasses, spider webs, and soft plant material



Goldfinches love visiting seed feeders and sometimes gather in large numbers. Look for the bright green and yellow males with their black cap and the the less colorful females in your yard.



American Robin

- This bird eats berries and bugs, but loves searching for worms. Find them in the grass of parks and lawns in the early morning hunting out their favorite food.
- Scientific names can tell you a lot about a bird! In the case of the American Robin, *Turdus migratorius* tells us it is a migrating thrush

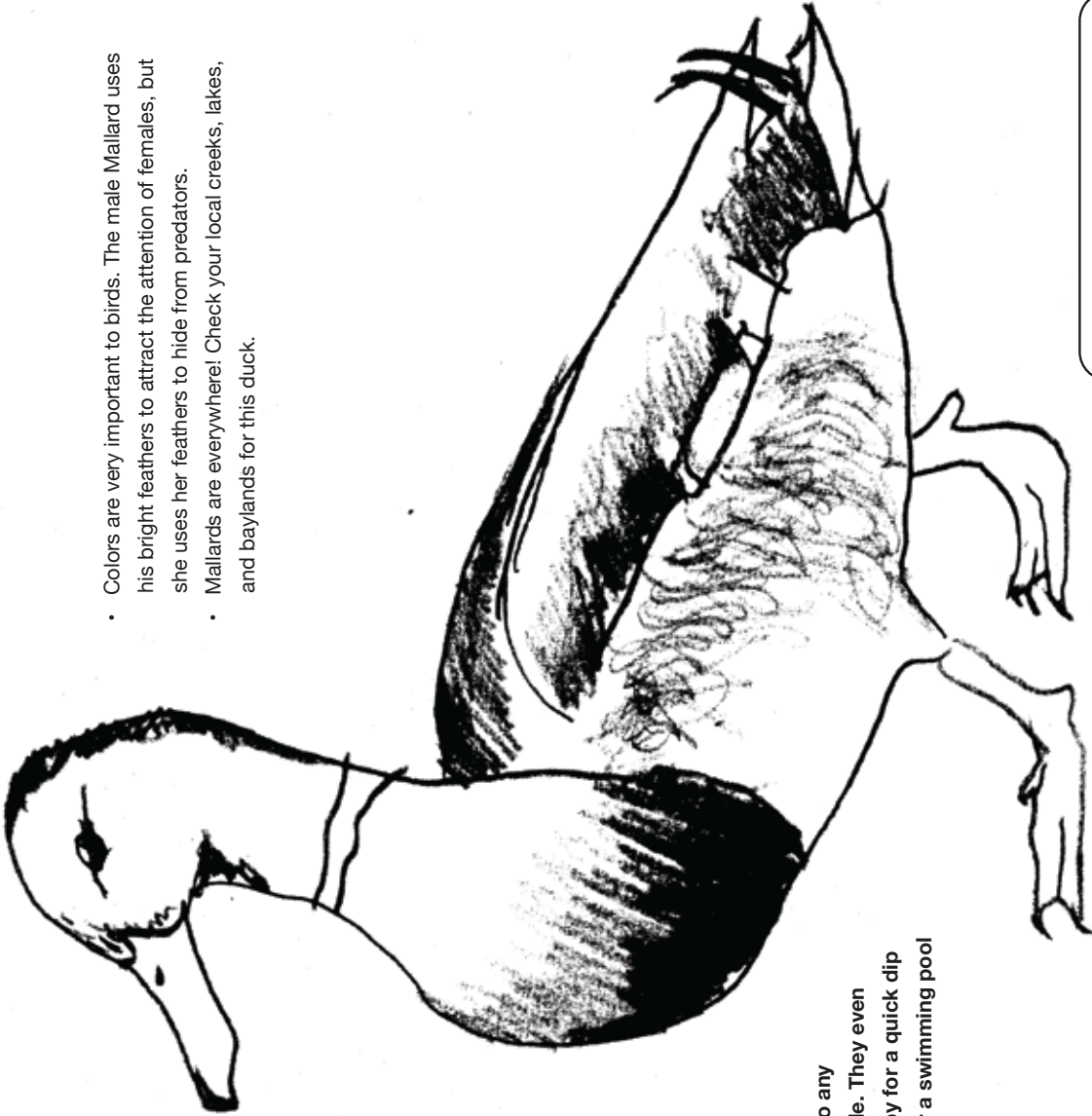
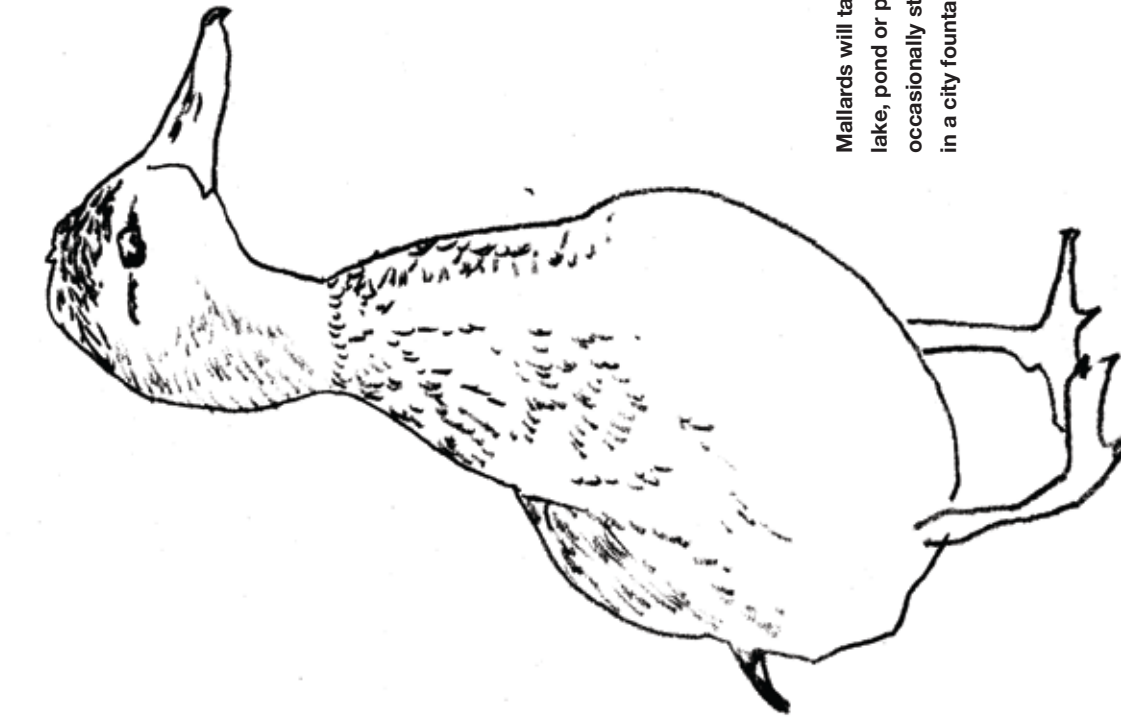
Robins love earthworms and other food items in your yard. Look for them after it rains as they search for lunch on your lawn. They also love berries which are easy to find in fall and winter.



SIZE CHART

MEDIUM

Mallard



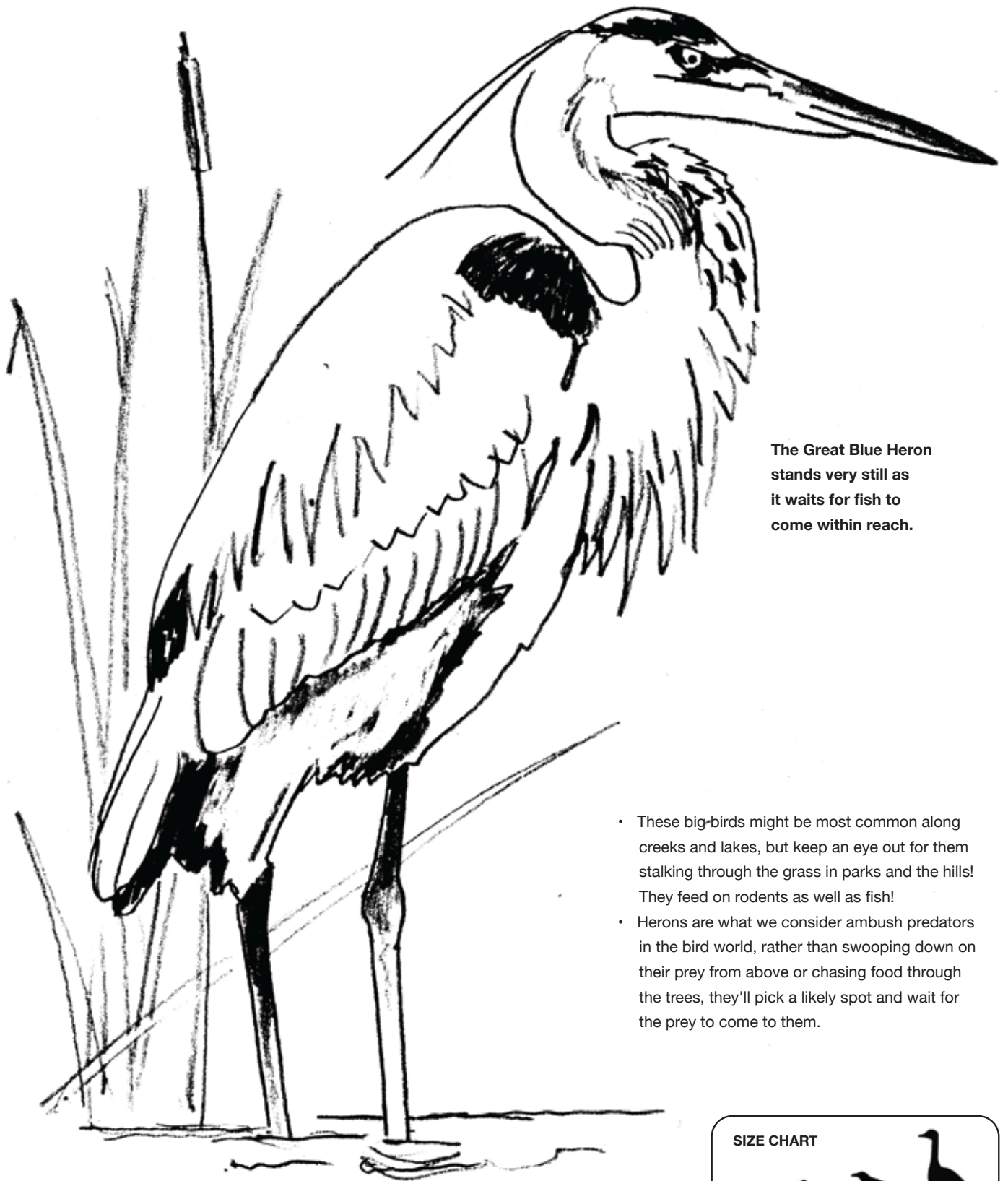
Mallards will take to any lake, pond or puddle. They even occasionally stop by for a quick dip in a city fountain or a swimming pool

- Colors are very important to birds. The male Mallard uses his bright feathers to attract the attention of females, but she uses her feathers to hide from predators.
- Mallards are everywhere! Check your local creeks, lakes, and baylands for this duck.

SIZE CHART

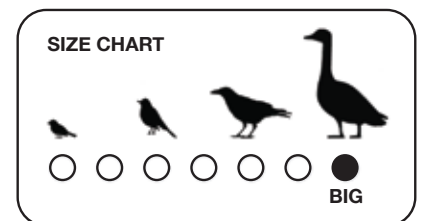
The size chart shows five ducks of increasing size from left to right. The largest duck is labeled 'BIG' with a solid black circle next to it. The other four ducks are represented by open circles.

Great Blue Heron



The Great Blue Heron stands very still as it waits for fish to come within reach.

- These big-birds might be most common along creeks and lakes, but keep an eye out for them stalking through the grass in parks and the hills! They feed on rodents as well as fish!
- Herons are what we consider ambush predators in the bird world, rather than swooping down on their prey from above or chasing food through the trees, they'll pick a likely spot and wait for the prey to come to them.

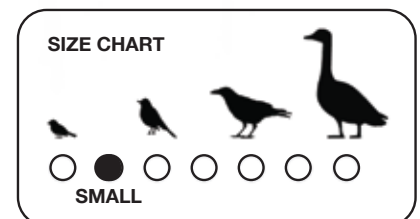


White-breasted Nuthatch

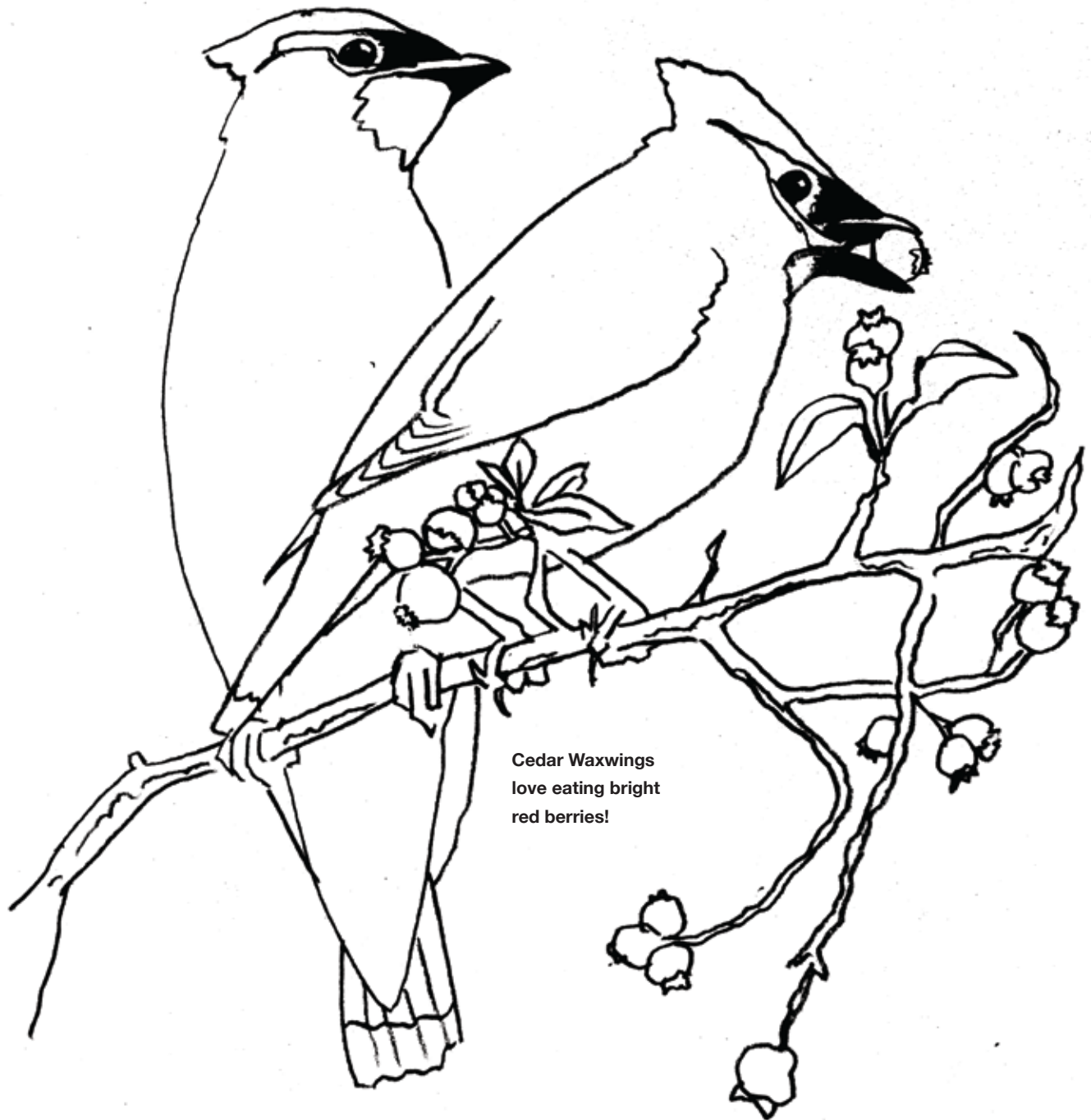
- These birds are cavity nesters, which means they build their nests in holes in trees, or even nest boxes people put up!
- They do not drill their nest cavities like Woodpeckers do. They move into old, unused nesting cavities.
- Nuthatch is a strange name, and comes from this bird's habit of wedging nuts and other tough foods against the bark of trees and hammering away with their beaks until they can crack open the nut.



Nuthatches often climb *down* the tree, which is unusual for birds.

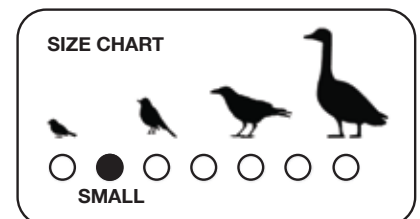


Cedar Waxwing



Cedar Waxwings
love eating bright
red berries!

- Cedar Waxwings are frugivores! For much of the year the majority of their diet is made up of fruit.
- Bird feathers can be affected by diets. Because of this, Cedar Waxwings sometimes develop orange feather tips rather than the usual yellow when they live in an area with a large amount of invasive honeysuckle plants, with unfamiliar carotenoid



Wild Turkey

- The Wild Turkey was first domesticated in Mexico as early as 300BC, and were then brought to Europe by the Spaniards in 1519. They spread across Europe, only to be reintroduced to North America in 1620.
- While Wild Turkeys can fly, they prefer walk. They also use their feet for self defense, kicking out with strong claws and sharp spurs to fend off rivals.

