# Bird Identification Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Black-capped Chickadee</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Smaller than a sparrow</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sketch</td>
<td></td>
<td>Shape</td>
<td>It’s a small bird with a long tail. Its bill is small and black.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>gray back</td>
<td>Field marks</td>
<td>The bird has a black cap and a black throat. The sides of the face are white.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>long tail</td>
<td>Behavior(s)</td>
<td>It was with several others of its kind. The bird held a seed between its feet and pounded the seed with its bill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>peach color here</td>
<td>Song(s) or call(s)</td>
<td>heard a “fee-bee” and a “chick-a-dee-dee-dee” call.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color(s)</td>
<td>Black on head, grey back, white belly, peach flanks</td>
<td>Habitat/Other comments</td>
<td>I saw several flocks of these birds in different habitats</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Hints for Bird Identification

What **color** pattern is the bird?

What **size** is the bird? Is it larger than, smaller than, or same size as
- a House sparrow?
- an American Robin?
- an American Crow?

What **shape** is the bird?
- Is it chunky or long and slender?
- Does it have a crest?
- Is its tail long or short compared with its body?
- How long are its legs compared with its body?
- How long is its beak compared with the size of its head?
- What is the bird’s posture? For example, how does it sit on its perch? Does it sit upright? Does it stick its tail in the air?

What are the bird’s **field marks**? For example,
- Does the bird have wing bars?
- An eyebrow?
- What about stripes?
- Are there tail bands?

How does the bird **behave**? For example,
- Does it eat at the feeder, or does it take seed back to the cover of a tree or shrub?
- Does it eat only from the ground?
- Does it bob its tail when it perches or walks?
- Is the bird usually seen by itself or does it hang out with a group?
- Are the nearby birds of the same species or different species?
- Does it chase away other feeder birds or does it share the feeder food?
- Is its flight distinctive in any way?

Can you hear **songs or calls**? What do they sound like?

What habitat was it in? What other interesting features did you observe?

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*Classroom Birdwatch, Cornell Lab of Ornithology*