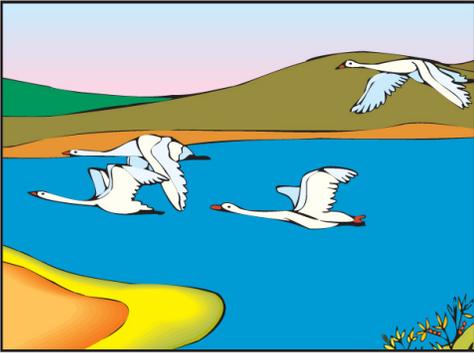


SEPTEMBER



UP, UP & AWAY

Can you imagine moving to a different house for every summer and winter? Some birds do. They are called **MIGRATORY BIRDS**.

Why would they leave their cozy nests and fly thousands of miles away? To follow their food source! In the fall, insects die or hibernate, so bug-eating birds must move south. Most birds of prey move south too since small rodents are hunkering down for the winter.

In the spring, birds move from their wintering grounds to their summer grounds for the breeding season because they need to find a place to raise their young. There is too much competition for living space in their winter grounds.

MAKE YOUR OWN BIRD FEEDER

More than **400 DIFFERENT TYPES OF BIRDS** call Maryland home. While some live here all year long and some just pass through seasonally, you can see them and enjoy their presence in your own backyard. (Don't worry if they don't show up right away — it may take a few days for them to find this new food source.)

What you'll need:

- A clean 2-liter bottle with lid
- Eye screw
- Wooden spoon
- Bird seed
- X-acto knife
- String or wire

What you'll do:

- Screw the eye screw onto the outside of the lid.
- Use the X-acto knife to make X-shaped slits on one side of the bottle.
- On the opposite side, cut out a small circle.
- Insert the spoon handle in through the circle and out through the X. The spoon should remain outside.
- Tie a string through the eyehook to make a circle.
- Add bird seed to the bottom.
- Put the lid back on and hang from a post or tree limb.
- Empty and wash weekly.



COLOR!

Check out all the creatures visiting this back yard! After you print out and color in this picture, search your own yard or local park with some friends or family members and see how many birds you can find!

