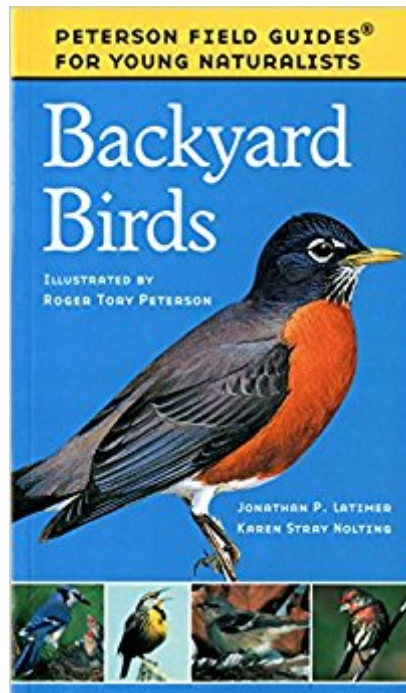




The book was found

Backyard Birds (Field Guides For Young Naturalists)



Synopsis

Field guides for young naturalists backyard birds series is designed with the beginner in mind. Features the original art of celebrated naturalist roger tory Peterson; incorporates the Peterson identification system, the most effective method for bird identification; and uses a straightforward design. This series makes field guides accessible and appealing to children. Paperback; 48 pages trim. Age range: 8-12 years, grade range grades 4-6. Measures 5-inch width by 8.5-inch length.

Book Information

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt; English Language edition (April 26, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0395922763

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Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.3 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 104 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #39,322 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #119 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Birds

Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 7

Customer Reviews

Grade 4-7-Field guides that offer tips on identification. Backyard Birds features types "...you are likely to see where you live"; Birds of Prey, the "...swift and often silent hunters..."; Bizarre Birds, North American birds with a unique characteristic; and Shorebirds that can be found "...near the bodies of fresh water and salt water in North America." Each guidebook includes a rather subjective selection of about 20 creatures. The organization of material is different in each title: the backyard birds are grouped by color, the raptors by size, and the bizarre birds by such characteristics as odd bills. The shorebirds are arranged by where they are likely to be seen-the air, water, ground, or grass. A two-page entry for each creature instructs readers on how to recognize it and provides a solid introduction to individual characteristics. Although the information is clear, there are some omissions. For example, three of the texts stress the importance of knowing the size of the bird as a clue to its identification but neither measurements nor range maps are included. However, bright, full-color photographs and drawings clearly indicate distinguishing features. Useful, accessible

additions. Frances E. Millhouser, Chantilly Regional Library, VA Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From the new series "Peterson Field Guides for Young Naturalists," Backyard Birds is a wonderful handbook for the novice birder. Whether your young bird-watcher is a curious casual observer or a more systematic collector of sightings, he or she will find this guide informative and easy to follow. Featuring illustrations by the famous naturalist Roger Tory Peterson, the book gives a simple, nonthreatening introduction to the Peterson system of bird identification (essentially a set of drawings and questions that help birders look for particular identifying features). There is enough information here to help readers identify 20 backyard birds common to most parts of the U.S. and Canada. A short course on the Peterson method encourages readers to observe the size, shape, color and markings of each bird sighted, as well as its habitat, call and behavior. Armed with this information, the reader can then solve the puzzle of what is flying around in the backyard. Each chapter--as highlighted in the table of contents--shows birds of one predominant color, enabling the reader to turn to the right section and begin the identification process right away, regardless of previous bird knowledge. The chapters themselves each describe and picture one to four birds, including notes on each one's habitat, voice and food. Readers are advised to observe other identification clues such as the shape of the beak (curved or straight?), the length of the legs (long or short?), and the shape of the tail (rounded, pointed, flat or forked?). These can be difficult to note when the bird is far away or in motion, but it gets easier with practice. This book will have you paying more attention to and getting more pleasure from the birds you see every day, whether you are just out with the family or going on a walk specifically to look for birds. And there are bonus features that make the book even more useful: in the hardback version, the inside back cover of the dust jacket is printed with rulers (metric and English) that make it easier to judge a bird's size. And the index includes room for entries describing where and when the young birder has seen each species--perhaps the start of his or her life list of birds seen. Joan Silberlicht Epstein --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The main criticism I have is that it does not include many common birds probably because it is only 48 pages long (including the index). For example the grackle was not included although it is wide-spread and can easily be confused with the starling by novice birders. The pictures and drawings are all in color, a real benefit, with arrows pointing out identifying features. The illustrator is commonly recognized as the best in the business. In my opinion the book should easily be read by a

third grader.

I'm not sure who likes this book more, me or my 4 year old! I recently received a pair of binoculars to check out birds in our yard and love knowing what I'm spotting! I will say that it was shorter than I was expecting but has great information, regardless.

Nice book.

very interesting

We love this little book. It describes the birds and their habits in some detail. It includes pictures of male, female, and young (when they look distinct). It also describes how the colors and patterns may vary among individuals and during different times of the year. Highly recommended for beginning bird watchers.

My three-year-old loves this book. Especially when we're birdwatching.

This is a wonderfully written book, very suitable for children (purchased for a 7-year-old but I would guess it's also great for teens interested in science). The birds pictured are all birds one commonly sees in the U.S., so young people can relate and learn some interesting facts about these cute feathered friends. It's a thin book so easy enough to get through and a fun read/guide such as for occasional scientific study in one's backyard.

Great little childrens bird book, but we enjoy it also.

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