Children’s Books About Birds and Birding
by Laura M. Stanton, Ohio State University Extension, Warren County

**All the Birds in the World**
by David Opie (2020)
What makes a bird a bird? All birds have feathers, wings, and beaks. But birds come in many varieties of colors, shapes, and sizes, with different habits and homes. Take a beautifully illustrated journey -- with an adorable kiwi bird as your guide -- through the vast and colorful world of birds, with its tapestry of textures, sounds, and sights.

**Birdhouse: A Lift-the-Flap Book of Discovery**
by Libby Walden (2018)
Birdhouses come in all shapes and sizes, designed to suit different types of birds. Discover how they can provide much-needed shelter, explore how we can make our yards more bird friendly and lift the flaps to find out more about your favorite feathered friends.

**Bird Count**
by Susan Edwards Richmond (2019)
An excited young girl and her mother carefully participate in the Christmas Bird Count as part of a team of citizen scientists, tallying birds found in different habitats near their home. Includes facts about birding and why the Christmas Bird Count is important.

**Bird Watch**
by Christie Matheson (2019)
Count backward from ten as you search for hidden birds (and insects and animals) in this seek-and-find picture book. And for curious young birders, a page of information about bird-watching and the different birds that appear in the book is included.
**Birds: Discovering North American Species**  
by Shirley Raines (2018)  
Explore the world of such North American birds as the American robin, Carolina chickadee, ruby-throated hummingbird, Northern mockingbird, red-winged blackbird, Eastern bluebird, great horned owl, American crow, and Northern cardinal.

**Birds and Their Feathers**  
by Britta Teckentrup (2018)  
The feather is one of nature’s most ingenious constructions. With a wealth of fascinating facts, this book tells the story of birds and their feathers for young readers. From iridescent feathers to feathers that sing; from the stately plumage of peacocks to the plumes of tiny hummingbirds; from the feathers of ancient myth to those that inspired human flight; there are delightful feathery stories here for all. The feather is a bond between nature and art, and a connection between earth and heaven.

**Birding Adventures for Kids: Activities and Ideas for Watching, Feeding, and Housing Our Feathered Friends**  
by Elissa Wolfson, Margaret A. Barker, National Audubon Society (2020)  
Whether exploring the forest, the backyard, or the city, you and your kids will learn about the habits of North America’s most popular songbirds, how to create safe and welcoming environments for them, how to observe them, and how to construct easy and safe species-appropriate birdhouses and feeders for common birds. The bird ID section includes descriptions of species and range maps.

**Counting Birds: The Idea That Helped Save Our Feathered Friends**  
by Heidi Stemple (2018)  
Counting Birds is a beautifully illustrated book that introduces kids to the idea of bird counts and bird watches. Along the way, they will learn about Frank Chapman, an ornithologist who wanted to see the end of the traditional Christmas bird hunt, an event in which people would shoot as many birds as possible on Christmas. Chapman, using his magazine Bird-Lore to promote the idea of counting birds, founded the first annual bird count.
Crow Not Crow
by Jane Yolen and Adam Stemple (2018)
One golden autumn day, a father takes his young daughter on her first birding walk. She’s ready to learn the family method of how to identify her first birds. As they wander, Dad gradually teaches her how to distinguish other black birds she sees from the one she already knows—the American Crow—by observing what’s different about the others.

Fly With Me: A Celebration of Birds Through Pictures, Poems, and Stories
by Jane Yolen, Heidi Stemple, Adam Stemple, Jason Stemple (2018)
A family of dedicated birders presents an illustrated tribute to birds featuring a combination of scientific facts, folklore, poems, and songs. This thoughtful and beautifully curated collection of our flying, feathery friends highlights the role birds play in human life from centuries ago to present day. While it’s beautiful, it’s also full of valuable real science about these wondrous creatures. From history and behavior to spotting and photographing, there’s sure to be something for every bird fan in your flock.

How to Find a Bird
by Jennifer Ward (2020)
How do you find a bird? There are so many ways! Begin by watching. And listening. And staying quiet, so quiet you can hear your own heartbeat. Soon you’ll see that there are birds everywhere—up in the sky, down on the ground, sometimes even right in front of you just waiting to be discovered! A non-fiction guide to finding and observing birds for young bird-watchers.

I Love Birds!: 52 Ways to Wonder, Wander & Explore Birds With Kids
by Jennifer Ward (2019)
Part journal, part field guide, this book is chock-full of the activities, information, and rich resources that will fuel discovery and inspire families, urban and rural, with everything bird. Through sensory, hands-on, creative explorations that involve birding basics and the how’s and why’s of bird behavior, parents are invited to share the joy of birds with children ages 4 to 8. The activities will engage children’s imagination and sense of wonder as they observe birds in the wild, become citizen scientists, and forge a deeper understanding, appreciation, and stewardship toward nature, our planet, and all things feathery.
Look Up: Birdwatching in Your Own Backyard
by Annette LeBlanc Cate (2019)
This conversational, humorous introduction to bird-watching encourages kids to get outdoors with a sketchbook and really look around. Quirky full-color illustrations portray dozens of birds chatting about their distinctive characteristics, including color, shape, plumage, and beak and foot types, while tongue-in-cheek cartoons feature banter between birds, characters, and the reader. Interactive and enjoyable tips bring an age-old hobby to new life for the next generation of bird-watchers. Includes a bibliography, an index, and bird-watching tips.

Nature All Around: Birds
by Pamela Hickman (2020)
The perfect resource for budding bird-watchers, this beautiful, comprehensive introduction encourages children to appreciate the wonderful world of birds all around them. Because birds can be spotted in every neighborhood, and in all seasons, they are an excellent choice for piquing children's interest in wildlife. Here's a comprehensive, child-friendly guide to birds that makes the perfect starting point.

Ultimate Explorer Field Guide: Birds
by Julie Beer (2016)
This fun, photo-filled, and fact-packed bird guide will make kids Stop! Look! and Listen! to find the feathered friends right in their own backyards. From ducks to hawks, sparrows to sandpipers, kids will learn how, where, and when to spot birds all over the United States. With tons of info and interactivity prompts, it’s the perfect companion for backyard or field trip, camping or vacation.

This book list has been compiled by Laura M. Stanton, Family and Consumer Sciences Educator, Ohio State University Extension, Warren County (2022). Email: stanton.60.osu.edu

Looking for additional birding resource? Visit: go.osu.edu/nature-matters-birds