

Bird Songs

Vocabulary

Pitch – frequency – high to low. A grouse has a low pitch a brown creeper has a high pitch call.

Tone – overall quality – listener's impression of the sound or voice; clear, buzzy, whistling, flute-like, hoarse or rough.

Tempo – speed or pace

Volume – how loud, amplitude

Rhythm – tempo of notes and pauses during song , pattern

Repetition – duplication of notes and phrases

Trill – series of notes repeated too fast to count usually at the same pitch

Mnemonics – easy to remember phrases or devises

Which Birds Sing? Passerines

Oscines – learn at least some portion of their songs

Subocines – inherit their songs

Calls vs. Songs

Calls – short simple, flight calls during night migration, food call of offspring, contact calls, nest begging, alarm calls

Songs – More complex delivered from exposed perches, territorial songs, mating

Dialects and habitat clues,

Habitat clues – grasslands, forest, marsh, ground, bush, tree.

Dawn Chorus – Hour before sunrise everybody sings

Reasons to Sing – Communication, territory, mating, pair bonding, partner, young, peers

Web Sites

<https://www.audubon.org/news/how-start-identifying-birds-their-songs-and-calls>

<https://www.audubon.org/news/a-beginners-guide-common-bird-sounds-and-what-they-mean>

<https://www.audubon.org/news/how-memorize-bird-songs-using-mental-images>

<https://www.audubon.org/news/why-knowing-your-local-bird-sounds-key-unlocking-new-ids>

<https://www.audubon.org/news/start-using-spectrograms-read-bird-songs-and-calls>

<https://academy.allaboutbirds.org/tag/spectrograms/>

<https://academy.allaboutbirds.org/avian-vocal-behavior-sound-visualizations/>

<https://academy.allaboutbirds.org/bird-song-hero/>