



# **My Bird Notebook**

*A Companion to the Burgess Bird Book*

by \_\_\_\_\_

## My Bird Notebook: A Companion to the Burgess Bird Book

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[www.hubbardscupboard.org](http://www.hubbardscupboard.org) and [www.joyfullearning.com](http://www.joyfullearning.com)

*Quotes and partial quotes in this notebook have been taken from the now public domain text of Thornton W. Burgess' The Burgess Bird Book for Children from 1919. One bird was chosen to focus on from each chapter in the original book.*

### **Ways To Use This Notebook**

#### ***Lined Sections:***

Have your child either...

- 1) Copy the text that is at the top of each page.
- 2) Copy a different section of memorable text from The Burgess Bird Book.
- 3) Write a few facts about each bird as gleaned from another informational book about birds or from an online source.

#### ***Bordered Sections:***

Have your child either...

- 1) Sketch and color the bird.
- 2) Take a photo of the bird and attach it.
- 3) Cut out clipart or photo of the bird from an online source.

#### ***Another Idea:***

If/When your child sees a bird from this booklet, let him/her attach a small sticker to the top right corner of the corresponding bird page.

- 1) House Wren
- 2) House Sparrow
- 3) Song Sparrow
- 4) Chipping Sparrow
- 5) Robin
- 6) Phoebe
- 7) Kingbird
- 8) Wood Pewee
- 9) Spotted Sandpiper
- 10) Red-winged Blackbird
- 11) Red-headed Woodpecker
- 12) Cowbird
- 13) Orchard Oriole
- 14) Meadow Lark
- 15) Tree Swallow
- 16) Purple Martin
- 17) Blue Jay
- 18) Red-tailed Hawk
- 19) Crow Blackbird
- 20) Bald headed Eagle
- 21) Great Blue Heron
- 22) Bank Swallow
- 23) Nighthawk
- 24) Yellow Warbler
- 25) Black and White Warbler
- 26) Parula Warbler
- 27) Cardinal
- 28) Grosbeak
- 29) Warbling Vireo
- 30) Brown Thrasher
- 31) Wood Thrush
- 32) Towhee
- 33) Goldfinch
- 34) Mourning Dove
- 35) Ruby-throated Hummingbird
- 36) Cedar Waxwing
- 37) Chickadee
- 38) Canada Goose
- 39) White-breasted Nuthatch
- 40) Junco
- 41) Horned Lark
- 42) Screech Owl
- 43) Ruffed Grouse
- 44) Pine Grosbeak
- 45) Great Horned Owl

# House Wren

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If there is need of getting out of sight in a hurry you can do it if you wear brown. But if you wear bright colors it isn't so easy.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

# House Sparrow

His back was more or less of an ashy color with black and chestnut stripes. His wings were brown with a white bar on each. His throat and breast were black.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

# Song Sparrow

He isn't a tree bird. He likes to be on or near the ground. You will never find his nest much above the ground, not more than a foot or two.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

# Chipping Sparrow

Chippy was a little fellow with a red-brown cap, brown back with feathers streaked with black, brownish wings and tail, a gray waistcoat and black bill, and a little white line over each eye.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

# Robin

Welcome Robin, with that black head, beautiful russet breast, black and white throat and yellow bill, not to mention the proud way he carries himself, certainly is a handsome fellow.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.



# Phoebe

We Phobes always have been fond of building under bridges. You see a place like this is quite safe. Then too, we like to be near water. Always there are many insects flying around where there is water, so it is an easy matter to get plenty to eat.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

# Kingbird

Scrapper was a white-throated, white-breasted bird, having a black cap and back, and a broad white band across the end of his tail.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

# Wood Pewee

But no one could mistake Pewee for any of his relatives, for the simple reason that he keeps repeating his own name over and over.

The page contains ten sets of primary-ruled lines for handwriting practice. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for a drawing or illustration.

## Spotted Sandpiper

Running along the very edge of the water was a slim, trim little bird with fairly long legs, a long slender bill, brownish-gray back with black spots and markings, and a white waistcoat neatly spotted with black.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

# Red-Winged Blackbird

As he flew, Peter saw the beautiful red patch on the bend of each wing, from which Redwing gets his name.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

# Red-headed Woodpecker

His whole head and neck were a beautiful, deep red. His breast was pure white, and his back was black to nearly the beginning of his tail, where it was white.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

# Cowbird

The cowbird is a member of the Blackbird family and lays her eggs in other birds' nests. She always chooses the nest of someone smaller than herself.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

## Orchard Oriole

She was dressed in olive-green and dull yellow, with white markings on her wings. How much easier it must be for her than for her handsome husband to hide among the green leaves.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.



# Meadow Lark

He had a yellow throat and waistcoat, with a broad black crescent on his breast. There was a yellow line above each eye. His back was brown with black markings. His sides were whitish, with spots and streaks of black. The outer edges of his tail were white.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

# Tree Swallow

The tree swallow has a snowy white breast and blue-green back and wings. He has a small bill and short legs.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side of the page, overlapping the bottom lines.

# Purple Martin

He dresses all in black, but it is a beautiful blue-black, and when the sun shines on his back it seems to be almost purple.

Handwriting practice area consisting of ten sets of horizontal lines. Each set includes a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. A large, empty rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side of the page, overlapping the bottom four sets of lines.

## Blue Jay

Whenever he discovers any danger, he always gives us warning. He has saved a good many of us feathered folks in this way. If it wasn't for this habit of stealing our eggs, I wouldn't have a word to say against him.

The page contains ten sets of primary-ruled lines for writing. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for a drawing or illustration.

# Red-tailed Hawk

But it was the tail which Peter noticed most of all. It was a rich reddish-brown with a narrow black band near its end and a white tip.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

## Crow Blackbird

Also known as a Grackle, his head and neck, his throat and upper breast, were a shining blue-black, while his back was a rich, shining brassy-green. As Peter watched it seemed as if the colors were constantly changing.

The page contains ten sets of primary-ruled lines for writing. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for a drawing or illustration.

# Bald-headed Eagle

His body and wings were dark brown, and his head was snowy white, as was his tail. His great hooked beak was yellow and his legs were yellow.

Handwriting practice area consisting of multiple sets of horizontal lines (top and bottom solid lines, middle dashed line) and a large rounded rectangular box on the right side.

## Great Blue Heron

His bill was longer than his head, stout and sharp like a spear and yellow in color. He stands nearly four feet high. In spite of the length of his legs and the length of his neck he was both graceful and handsome.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.



## Bank Swallow

The air seemed to be full of Banker's friends, skimming and circling this way and that, and going in and out of the little holes in the bank... Way in at the end of it we've got the nicest little nest of straw and feathers.

The page contains ten sets of horizontal lines for writing, each consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for a drawing.

# Nighthawk

Such a mouth he has! I suppose it is very handy to have a big mouth if one must catch all one's food in the air. Look for him in the air late in the afternoon.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

# Yellow Warbler

At first glance he seemed to be all yellow, as if somehow he had managed to catch and hold the sunshine in his feathers.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

## Black and White Warbler

Running along a limb just over his head was a little bird with a black and white striped coat and a white waistcoat. It flew down near the base of the tree and began to run straight up the trunk, picking things from the bark here and there as it ran.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

## Parula Warbler

His coat was of a soft bluish color with a yellowish patch in the very center of his back. Across each wing were two bars of white. His throat was yellow.

The page contains ten sets of horizontal lines for handwriting practice. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, which is likely intended for a drawing or a detailed description of the Parula Warbler.

# Cardinal

The stranger was dressed all in red, excepting a little black around the base of his bill. Even his bill was red. He wore a beautiful red crest which made him still more distinguished looking, and how he could sing!

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# Grosbeak

His head, throat, and back were black. His wings were black with patches of white on them. But it was his breast that made Peter catch his breath with a little gasp of admiration, for the breast was a beautiful rose-red.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

## Warbling Vireo

He sings from the time jolly Mr. Sun gets up in the morning until he goes to bed at night. He sings when it is so hot that the rest of us are glad to keep still for comfort's sake. I don't know of anybody more fond of the tree tops than he is.

The page contains ten sets of horizontal lines for writing. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, which is partially overlapping the bottom-most set of writing lines.



## Brown Thrasher

I've never seen anybody twitch their tail around the way he does. It is because he thrashes his tail around so much that he is called a Thrasher. That long tail of his hangs straight down when he sings.

The page contains ten sets of primary-ruled lines for writing. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for a drawing or illustration.

## Wood Thrush

His coat was a beautiful reddish-brown. Beneath he was white with large, black spots thickly dotting his breast and sides. He was singing as if he were trying to put into those beautiful notes all the joy of life.

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# Towhee

"I've noticed that I seldom see you up in the tree tops," remarked Peter. "I spend more of my time on the ground than anywhere else."

The page contains ten sets of horizontal writing lines. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, which is partially overlapping the writing lines.

# Goldfinch

He wore a black cap. The rest of his head and his whole body were bright yellow. His wings were black with two white bars on each. His tail also was black, with some white on it. It was a joy just to look at him.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom portion of the lines.

## Mourning Dove

You know I eat grain and hard seeds. Not having any teeth I have to swallow them whole. One part of my stomach is called a gizzard and its duty is to grind and crush my food so that it can be digested. Tiny pebbles and gravel help grind the food and so to aid digestion.

The page contains ten sets of primary-ruled lines for writing. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for a drawing or illustration.

## Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Often Peter had seen Hummer darting about from flower to flower holding himself still in mid-air in front of each as he thrust his long bill into the heart of the blossom to get the tiny insects there and the sweet juices he is so fond of.

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## Cedar Waxwing

They are very fond of small fruits. One of them had a plump cherry which he passed to the next one. This one passed it on to the next, and so it went to the end of the row and halfway back before it was finally eaten.

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# Chickadee

I'm thankful I don't have to take that long journey most of the birds do. I've found that if a fellow isn't afraid of a little work, he can find plenty to eat.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.



## Canada Goose

High up, flying in the shape of a letter V, he saw a flock of great birds flying steadily in the direction of the Far North. Now that they had arrived, he knew that winter was not far away.

The page contains ten sets of handwriting practice lines. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, which is partially overlapping the bottom two sets of handwriting lines.

## White-breasted Nuthatch

He was doing a most surprising thing, something no other bird can do. He was walking head first down the trunk of that tree, picking tiny eggs of insects from the bark and seemingly quite as much at home and quite as unconcerned in that queer position as if he were right side up.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

# Junco

"If you like here so much why don't you stay all year?" inquired Peter. "It gets too warm. I hate hot weather. Give me cold weather every time."

The page contains ten sets of horizontal lines for handwriting practice. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, which is partially overlapping the bottom-most set of handwriting lines.

# Horned Lark

The first things he noticed were two little horn-like tufts of black feathers above and behind the eyes. No other bird has anything quite like them. His forehead, a line over each eye, and his throat were yellow.

The page contains ten sets of horizontal writing lines. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, which is partially overlapping the writing lines.

## Screech Owl

On each side of his head was a tuft of feathers. They looked like ears, but they are not. His eyes are fixed in their sockets and he cannot move them from side to side. He has to turn his whole head in order to see one side or the other.

The page contains ten sets of horizontal writing lines. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for a drawing.

## Ruffed Grouse

If my feet were just the same as in summer I would sink right down in when the snow is soft and wouldn't be able to walk about at all. Now, with these snowshoes, I get along very nicely. You see I sink in but very little.

The page contains ten sets of primary-ruled lines for writing. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. On the right side of the page, there is a large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for a drawing or illustration.

## Pine Grosbeak

We certainly hated to leave up there, but food was getting so scarce that we had to. Can you tell me if there are any cedar, ash, or sumac trees here? They hold their berries all winter and those berries make very good eating.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.

## Great Horned Owl

The rustle of a leaf would be enough to bring him to the spot on his great silent wings, and then his fierce yellow eyes, which are made for seeing in the dusk, would find the victim.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. A large rounded rectangular box is positioned on the right side, overlapping the bottom lines.



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