

## Atlantic Maritime Ecozone

FOLD ACROSS

### Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*)

#### CLUES:

- 1) I like beaches—and also garbage dumps.
- 2) I am one of Canada's most widespread species.
- 3) My bill is yellow with a red spot on the lower tip.
- 4) I eat almost anything: clams, fish, dead animals—even French fries.
- 5) I'm a colonial nester and like to nest near many others of the same species.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT some herring gulls use the same nesting area every year?**



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### Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*)

#### CLUES:

- 1) I range from coast to coast.
- 2) My tail is slightly forked and my wings are pointed.
- 3) I have glossy, steel-blue feathers on my back and white underparts.
- 4) My wide beak scoops up insects in the air.
- 5) I like to nest in cavities near water or in bird boxes.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT I am the only swallow species that also eats seeds and berries?**



### Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*)

#### CLUES:

- 1) I spend winter in South America.
- 2) My favourite spots are alder or willow thickets along the water's edge.
- 3) I'm good at keeping out of sight.
- 4) My beak is wide to help me catch insects.
- 5) I often nest in alders and never more than two metres from the ground.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT there are about 360 flycatcher species?**

### Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*)

#### CLUES:

- 1) I prefer mixed woods with dying trees.
- 2) Typically, I creep up tree trunks in spirals, then fly down to the base of another tree to start again.
- 3) My sharp claws make it easy for me to creep around on tree trunks.
- 4) My beak is pointed and downcurved.
- 5) I love nesting under a piece of loose bark on a dead or dying tree.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT I am the only North American bird that has the combination of mottled plumage, downcurved bill, and distinctive upward creeping habits?**



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### Evening Grosbeak

(*Coccothraustes vespertinus*)

#### CLUES:

- 1) I like woods in town or the country and I often visit backyard feeders.
- 2) A century ago, my range was mostly in the West, but now I'm found as far east as Nova Scotia.
- 3) If I'm a male, I have lots of yellow feathers. If I'm a female, I'm mostly grey.
- 4) My beak is heavy, cone-shaped, and yellowish-white.
- 5) I make a shallow nest of twigs, rootlets, and bark shreds high up in dense conifers.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT my name means "big beak"?**



### Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*)

#### CLUES:

- 1) Tall trees are favourite spots to hang out—especially elms.
- 2) I like to spend winters from Mexico to Columbia, South America.
- 3) I have a melodious song of between four and eight whistled notes.
- 4) My beak is slender—a good shape for feeding on insects, worms, and berries.
- 5) My nest is bag-shaped and usually hangs high in a deciduous tree.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT my distinctive nest can take a week or so to build?**

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