# BEGIN BIRDING!



#### What do I need?



Binoculars



Bird Field Guide



A friend to go birding with

## Why go bird-watching?

- Birds are ALL around us in rural and urban habitats, ANY time of the year
- Birding is an economical hobby that gets us outside and connecting with nature
- Learning more about birds promotes understanding and conservation

# Apps RESOURCES



Merlin Bird ID by Cornell Lab

- FREE
- accessible offline
- Identify 6,000 bird species across the world
- Connects to Cornell Lab's eBird citizen science database



**Audubon Bird Guide** 

- FREE
- Identify 800+ bird species across North America
- Keep track of your sightings



**BirdNet** 

- FREE
- Collaboration between Cornell Lab and German Tech. University
- Identify 900+ bird species across North America and Europe BY THEIR CALLS!

# Websites

www.allaboutbirds.org

www.ofo.ca

www.audubon.org

#### **Books & Field Guides**

The Sibley Guide to Birds

Peterson Field Guides for Young Naturalists

**Stokes Beginner Guide to Birds** 

#### Ontario Hot Spots

Presqu'ile Provincial Park

**Point Pelee National Park** 

**Long Point Bird Observatory** 

## **TOP 5 TIPS for Beginner Birders**

- 1. Birds are hard to spot but easy to hear close your eyes and listen!
- 2. Binoculars can be tricky for little people to use if they're having trouble, have them sit still and watch with their eye for movements in the trees
- 3. Can't quite find the birds? Look for signs instead! Nests, scat, cracked seeds etc.
- 4. Play games!
  - Make a scavenger hunt list of birds to find
  - Play 'I Spy' to get used to looking through binoculars, looking for more than just birds
- 5. Learn mnemonics to recognize and remember bird calls

Show us your learning in-action!



@ofahhfhc

