# Bird detectives

Hoʻomaluhia Botanical Garden · Ages 4–10 with a grown-up

## MISSION 01 / LOOK FOR THREE DIFFERENT BIRDS

Match a photo, check a box, then describe the clue that helped you.

### ☐ Common myna



Yellow bill and yellow skin around the eye; brown body, dark head.

**Can you spot two yellow features?**

INTRODUCED

### ☐ Red-crested cardinal



Red crest, white underside, and gray back. Young birds have browner heads.

**Trace its crest in the air with a finger.**

INTRODUCED

### ☐ Warbling white-eye / mejiro



Small olive-green bird with a bright white ring around its eye.

**Look for movement among leaves.**

INTRODUCED

### ☐ Hawaiian coot / ʻalae keʻokeʻo



Dark body and a white bill and forehead shield. Its toes have lobes.

**How is its bill different from a duck's?**

NATIVE · ENDEMIC · ENDANGERED

### ☐ Black-crowned night heron



Adults have a dark crown, gray wings, and a strong pointed bill.

**Try standing still like a hunting heron.**

NATIVE · ʻAUKUʻU

### ☐ Pacific golden-plover / kōlea



Upright stance, slim bill, and patterned plumage that changes with season.

**Watch for a run-stop-look movement.**

NATIVE · MIGRATORY

Reference photos show the species, not sightings at this garden. Size, age, and plumage vary.

**Stay on open paths. Give birds space. Do not feed, chase, touch, or approach nests.**

# The bird bingo challenge

Name: _____ Date: _____ Weather: _____

## MISSION 02 / COMPLETE ANY ROW OF THREE

Look, listen, and check each challenge you complete. You can use the same bird twice.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Water watcher**<br>See a bird on or beside water. | ☐ **Yellow clue**<br>Spot a yellow bill or yellow eye patch. | ☐ **Eye detective**<br>Find a bird with a white eye-ring. |
| ☐ **Sound explorer**<br>Listen quietly for 30 seconds. | ☐ **WILDLIFE PLEDGE**<br>I give animals space and leave no food. | ☐ **Red alert**<br>Notice a red head or crest. |
| ☐ **Together or alone?**<br>Observe two birds near each other. | ☐ **Ground explorer**<br>Watch a bird searching the grass. | ☐ **Artist's eye**<br>Sketch a bird you noticed below. |

## MISSION 03 / DRAW THE CLUE, NOT A PERFECT PICTURE

**Circle the feature you used:**

bill / eye / crest / feet / color

I think this bird is:

_____

I am: sure / unsure / still looking

## PHOTO-CLUE QUIZ

1. Which bird has a white eye-ring? _____ 2. Which bird travels to Alaska? _____

3. Which native bird is naturally found only in Hawaiʻi? _____

# My garden bird list

You do not need to find every bird. An “unknown bird” is a useful observation, too.

- [ ] Common myna
- [ ] Red-crested cardinal
- [ ] Warbling white-eye / mejiro
- [ ] Hawaiian coot / ʻalae keʻokeʻo
- [ ] Black-crowned night heron
- [ ] Pacific golden-plover / kōlea
- [ ] Cattle egret
- [ ] Java sparrow / Java finch
- [ ] Red-billed leiothrix
- [ ] White-rumped shama
- [ ] Northern cardinal
- [ ] Red-vented bulbul
- [ ] Red-whiskered bulbul
- [ ] Common waxbill
- [ ] Chestnut munia
- [ ] Scaly-breasted munia / nutmeg mannikin
- [ ] Spotted dove
- [ ] Zebra dove
- [ ] House sparrow
- [ ] Mallard duck

### THREE WORDS THAT TELL A STORY

Native: arrived without people. Introduced: brought here by people.

Endemic: naturally found only here. The Hawaiian coot is endemic and endangered.

**PARENT ANSWERS: 1. Warbling white-eye. 2. Kōlea. 3. Hawaiian coot.**

### PHOTO CREDITS & REUSE

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Learning sources (tap): City bird checklist · Hawaiʻi DLNR: ʻAukuʻu · USFWS species guide

Checked Nov. 24, 2026. Seasonal sightings are not guaranteed. Take only drawings, photos, and memories.