

Birds

AN ALPHABET OF BIRDS (SECOND EDITION)

14 min; color; p
1/2" VHS **PC0397,VH**

Uses each letter of the alphabet to present information about birds and their activities. Conveys basic scientific information as well as providing an easy way to understand rhymes and master the alphabet. (CORT; c1988)

Alphabet; Birds

ANIMAL PHYSIOLOGY SERIES

For descriptions see individual titles:
FLYING IN BIRDS [NC1984]

ASPECTS OF ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SERIES

NESTING BEHAVIOR OF THE EGYPTIAN
PLOVER [NC2283]

BIRDS FOR ALL SEASONS SERIES

Includes rare and striking footage of the habits and behavior of birds filmed by the Natural History Unit of the BBC.

BIRDS FOR ALL SEASONS: THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

60 min; color; i,j
1/2" VHS **NC1889,VH**

Observes and discusses the behavior of birds in the polar regions, providing details about breeding and migration cycles. Films emperor penguins, cormorants, snow petrels, and skuas in the Antarctic and snow buntings, auks, snowy owls, and white gyrfalcons in the Arctic, as well as the arctic tern, which flies from Antarctica to the Arctic every Arctic spring and back again in the fall. Highlights the unique survival behaviors of the penguins in this harsh climate. Observes the hatching of eggs, the care and feeding of chicks, and mating behavior. (BBC;CHUH;c1986)

Animals, Habits and behavior of; Birds; Polar regions

BIRDS FOR ALL SEASONS: THE EVERLASTING HEAT

60 min; color; i,j
1/2" VHS **NC1887,VH**

Focuses on birds found in deserts, grasslands, and rainforests throughout the world, illustrating the behaviors and physical characteristics unique to birds in each particular region. Explains how birds that live in desert and grassland regions have less elaborate courtship behaviors than those in the tropics because of the hostile environment. Films trumpeter finches, lark wheaters, elf owls, longtail widow birds, wire tailed mannequins, Indonesia-Wallace standard wing, umbrella birds, and others. (BBC;CHUH;c1986)

Animals, Habits and behavior of; Birds

BIRDS FOR ALL SEASONS: THE LANDS OF THE FOUR SEASONS

60 min; color; i,j
1/2" VHS **NC1888,VH**

Shows birds of the temperate zone in their natural habitats throughout the world and records their behaviors during the four seasons. Presents close-up views of nest building, preening, feeding, and migration. Follows a pair of tawny owls through a 12-month period and includes previously unfiled species and behaviors. Shows birds native to Tibet, New Zealand, South Africa, Australia, and North America. (BBC;CHUH;c1986)

Animals, Habits and behavior of; Birds

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

30 min; color; i,j,h,c,a
1/2" VHS **NC1975,VH**

Focuses on the complicated life cycle of the Quelea, an African bird with flocks that number in the millions. Explains the critical breeding conditions and synchronization required if four million birds are to fly away to breed again. Discusses the birds' impact on the environment and on farmers' crops. Photographed and produced by Oscar winner Simon Trevor. (SURVIVA; BENM;c1988)

Animals, Habits and behavior of; Birds

BIRDS (REVISED)

14 min; color; i,j,h
1/2" VHS **NC1806,VH**

Vertebrates Series - Examines the amazing variety of birds and how they adapt to diverse environments in the air, on land, and in the water. Demonstrates that all birds share common characteristics despite their obvious variety. (CORT;r1985)

Birds

THE DISCOVERY OF ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SERIES

Mingles dramatizations of renowned experiments in behavioral studies with location footage for a unique look at how naturalists, environmentalists, and scientists have uncovered the secrets of why animals behave as they do. Hosted by Dr. Donald Johanson, noted paleo-anthropologist and director of the Institute of Human Origins in Berkeley, California.

THE DISCOVERY OF ANIMAL BEHAVIOR, NO. 1: NATURAL MYSTERIES

60 min; color; j,h,c,a
1/2" VHS **NC1770,VH**

Explores the medieval superstitions of early naturalists, traveling back to the 13th century. Focuses on Frederick II of Hohenstaufen, whose passion for falconry resulted in his immense, illustrated book *De Arte Venandi Cum Avibus (On the Art of Hunting with Birds)*. (BBC;WNET/13;F1;c1982)

Animals, Habits and behavior of; Birds;
Science-History

EVOLUTION SERIES

SEXUAL SELECTION: WHY DO PEACOCKS
HAVE ELABORATE TRAINS? [NC2284]

FLYING IN BIRDS

25 min; color; c
1/2" VHS **NC1984,VH**

Animal Physiology Series - Focuses on studies being conducted at Bristol University in England on the aerodynamics of birds in flight. Reveals that new information is being obtained by implanting Canada geese with a specially-designed transmitter and following them in a van equipped to receive in-flight data. Explains that this data may help explain lift and thrust, air foil of a flapping wing, oxygen consumption during flight, and the overall use of energy. (OPENUN;MEDG;c1979)

Birds; Physiology

KNOWZONE SERIES

For descriptions see individual titles:
WHY DO BIRDS SING? [NC1802]

LIFE ON EARTH SERIES

Blends scientific data with wildlife photography in this series hosted by wildlife expert David Attenborough. Traces the development of life based on the principal theme that each species of organism found on Earth represents a particular solution to the problem of staying alive. Examines some of the adaptive strategies developed in evolution to solve this problem.

LORDS OF THE AIR [NC1854]

Birds

LORDS OF THE AIR

30 min; color; h,c,a

1/2" VHS **NC1854,VH**

Life on Earth Series - Uses color motion photography from throughout the world to demonstrate the diversity among species of birds. Emphasizes that all birds lay eggs rather than carry them internally in order to divest themselves of extra weight. Demonstrates the variety of forms of winged flight resulting from differing adaptive strategies, all of which are both energy efficient and coordinated with feeding habits. Shows birds that have abandoned flight altogether to live on land in areas free of predators and where adequate food is available. (WARNER;FI;c1981)

Adaptation (Animals); Birds; Evolution

A NATURALIST IN THE RAINFOREST

53 min; color; h,c,a

1/2" VHS **NC2243,VH**

Presents the story of naturalist Alexander Skutch and his work studying birds in the tropical rainforests of Central America. Explains how he began his career as a botanist in 1928. Listens as he describes birds' complex patterns of behavior. Cites some of his pioneering discoveries, including "cooperative breeding" and "birdnesting." Cites 1937 as the high point of his early career, when he journeyed to Costa Rica in search of the Quetzal bird. Includes comments from other ecologists about the richness of the tropical rainforest and the effects of deforestation. Visits Skutch on his farm where he practices sustainable agriculture and explains his philosophy of attempting to live in harmony with nature. (FEYLIPA;BULFROG;c1995)

Biography; Birds; Central America; Naturalists; CLACS

NESTING BEHAVIOR OF THE EGYPTIAN PLOVER

14 min; color; c,a

1/2" VHS **NC2283,VH**

Aspects of Animal Behavior Series - Shows the environmental adaptations of the Egyptian plover (*Pluvianus aegyptius*), a bird that inhabits river banks in tropical Africa. Nesting on open sandbars, it conceals its eggs by covering them completely with sand. During the intense midday heat it soaks its belly in the river, returns to sit on the nest, and thereby wets and cools the buried eggs. (HOWELTH;UCEMC;c1978)

Adaptation (Animals); Birds

SEXUAL SELECTION: WHY DO PEACOCKS HAVE ELABORATE TRAINS?

25 min; color; c,a

1/2" VHS **NC2284,VH**

Evolution Series - Researchers at the Whipsnade Zoo in Great Britain determine through scientific reasoning that the purpose of the male peacock's train is to attract females. Explores what the male might gain or lose from carrying such a long train. Shows the scientific research method in action. (BBC;PENNSU;c1992)

Adaptation (Animals); Birds; Evolution;
Science—Methodology

SIGNALS FOR SURVIVAL

56 min; color; j,h,c,a

1/2" VHS **CC2199,VH**

A Study of Animal Language series - Documents the role that signalic communication plays in the life of the Lesser Black-Beaked Seagull, observing the birds' migration patterns and their courtship, mating, and rearing of the young. Interprets the complex pattern of posture, movement, sound, and color that is the language of the gulls in relation to such behavioral aspects as territoriality, aggression, courtship and mating, alarm signals, and flights. Shows how the proper interpretation of these signals is essential to the gulls' survival. (TINN;MCGH;c1970)

Animals, Habits and behavior of; Birds; Nonverbal communication

STIMULI RELEASING SEXUAL BEHAVIOR OF DOMESTIC TURKEYS

19 min; color; c

1/2" VHS **NC0071,VH**

Pictures stimuli which release sexual behavior in the male and female domestic turkey. Shows reaction of the female to the strutting male and the sexual behavior of the male in the presence of a receptive female. Presents experimental situations in which a model of a female elicits sexual behavior on the part of the male. Demonstrates the importance of the female's head in stimulating sexual behavior in the male. Ways of determining sexual vitality of males in a flock are described. *Should be projected at sound speed.* (PENNSU;c1958)

Birds; Psychology, Comparative

A STUDY OF ANIMAL LANGUAGE SERIES

For descriptions see individual titles:

SIGNALS FOR SURVIVAL [CC2199]

VERTEBRATES SERIES

For descriptions see individual titles:

BIRDS (REVISED) [NC1806]

WHY DO BIRDS SING?

30 min; color; i,j,h

1/2" VHS **NC1802,VH**

Knowzone Series - Studies the songs of birds to demonstrate that they serve to identify the individual, give warning, assert territorial dominance, and solicit mates.

Hosted by David Morse. (WGBHTV;CORT;r1987)

Birds; Nonverbal communication