



The Birdsong Song

by John Benjamin, Teacher-Naturalist

CHORUS

I see birds outside my windowpane

And way up high with the aereo-planes

I hear them singing everywhere

Oh let the birdsongs fill the air, let the birdsongs fill the air

Verse 1: Phoebe

A bird appears when spring arrives

Builds a mossy nest on the garage side

Its tail is wagging up and down

The phoebe sings its name out loud,

The phoebe sings its name out loud

“FEE-bee!”

Verse 2: Nuthatches

They climb the tree trunks up and down
Grey tails poked up, sharp beaks poked out
Some have breasts of red, some of white, it's true
Those nuthatches they laugh at you,
Nuthatches they laugh at you!

“Ha-ha-ha-ha! Ha-ha-ha-ha!”

Verse 3: Northern Cardinal

The males are known for feathers red
With pointed crests upon their heads
Play baseball in St. Louis, I heard
The cardinal is a cheerful bird,
The cardinal is a cheerful bird

“Cheer Cheer Cheer! Birdy Birdy Birdy!”

Verse 4: White-throated Sparrow

Hike high up on a mountain trail
A song rings clear in the frosty air
To hear this bird is quite a treat
They sure think Canada is sweet,
they must think Canada is sweet

“Sweeeeeeeet Canada Canada Canada!”

Verse 5: Pileated Woodpecker

A bird that really leaves its mark
Drills great big holes through the dead tree’s bark
Because tasty ants are found within
A big red-crested bird is drum-a-drumming
It’s a pileated woodpecker drum-a-drumming!

- ***Loud Drumming Sound***
- ***Call: “Wuk Wuk Wuk!”***

Verse 6: Hermit Thrush

Deep within the hemlock trees
A song comes from where I cannot see
The hermit thrush is shy and cute
It sounds sort of like a magic flute,
Kind of like a magic flute

Magical flutey sound that rises higher and higher...

Verse 7: Barred Owl

I walk outside into the night
The moon and stars are shining bright
A barred owl sings in the inky blue
It wants to know who cooks for you,
It wants to know who cooks for you

“Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you all?”

Verse 8: American Crow

One of the very smartest birds
Communicates without a word
They growl and cackle, caw and squall
The crow can maybe say it all,
Those crows can maybe say it all

- *“Caw caw!”*
- *“Rattling sound*

Verse 9: Turkey Vulture

The turkey vulture is rarely heard
It’s a quiet carrion-sniffing bird
But sometimes when it feels afraid
It hisses so it can get away
It makes a hiss and gets away

“HISSSSSSSS!!!”

Verse 10: Canada Goose

A flying V in the autumn sky
Migrating flock is passing by
They're all done pooping on your lawn
The Canada goose is traveling on,
The Canada goose is traveling on

"Honk! Honk! Honk!"

Verse 11: Black-capped Chickadee

They flock up in the wintertime
To watch the forest with many eyes
They spot the dangers and spread the word
And help the other winter birds,
Help all those other winter birds

- ***Call: "Chickadee-dee-dee!"***
- ***Song: "See-Saw!"***

Verse 11: Black-capped Chickadee

A blackbird returns in the early spring

Red and yellow spots upon its wings

Down in the cattails, I hear its sound

The red-winged blackbird is back in town

The red-winged blackbird is back in town!

“Konk-a-REEEEEE!”