

Card Number: 1, Kite

I have a brown body and a forked tail. I like to live near humans and you can find me everywhere – in cities, towns and villages. I am a very strong flier. I can turn and twist in the air very easily. This helps me in finding food on traffic-congested roads and also in avoiding the tangles of all those overhead electrical wires! I often look for food in the garbage bins and also like to eat lizards and mice. I make my nest with twigs, wires, rags etc., on large trees or rooftops.

Can you guess my name?

Card Number: 2, Koel

I have shiny black feathers, with a greenish-yellow beak and red eyes. I usually stay alone or in pairs. I love trees and you will always find me in gardens and groves amongst large, leafy trees. I love to eat fruits, berries and also caterpillars and insects. I am usually quiet during the winter season but you will hear my “kuoo, kuoo” very frequently during the summers. I do not like to make nests so, I just lay my eggs in the nests of my friend – the crow..!

Who am I?

Card Number: 3, Seagull

I have grey and white feathers and a grayish-white head. I come to India in September and leave by April. Seacoasts are my favourite places although sometimes I also stay near rivers. I am a strong flier and I can also float on water! I like to eat fish and insects. For me, the easiest way to get food is to follow the fishing boats – I always manage to get some fish that way!

And, my name is...?

Card Number: 4, Sarus crane

I am a big, tall grey coloured bird with red legs and a red head and neck. I always live in pairs near farmlands and marches. I fly with slow rhythmical wing strokes, with my neck and legs outstretched. I love to eat grains, vegetable shoots, insects and reptiles. I choose my partner for life and together we build our nests with reeds, stems and straw, in paddy fields or marshes.

Can you guess my name?

Card Number: 5, Owl

I have grey, brown and white feathers on my body and I have a large round head. I usually stay alone or in pairs. I like to stay near human beings and mostly live in deserted buildings or ruins. I like to eat rats, and so I am very helpful to the human beings! I do not like daytime so, I rest and sleep during the day and hunt for my food at night. I make my nest out of straw, twigs and rags, in tree hollows or holes in ruined walls. I use the same nest again and again!

And, my name is...?

Card Number: 6, Egret

I have white feathers and a yellow beak. I like to live in groups and ride on the backs of cows and buffalos. I mostly eat grasshoppers and other insects, but sometimes I eat frogs and lizards too. At night, I love to rest on my favourite tree with all my friends around me. I build my nests with twigs and branches on large leafy trees.

Can you guess who I am?

Card Number: 7, Parakeet

I am a green coloured bird with a rose-coloured collar around my neck and a short, hooked red beak. I love to stay with my friends and we talk with each other all the time. I can stay in different kinds of places, so you will find me in forests, farms, villages and cities. I can fly very fast and you will often find me whizzing through the trees! I love to eat grains and fruits. I lay my eggs in tree hollows or in small holes in building walls.

Can you guess who I am?

Card Number: 8, Pond heron

I have a brown body and shiny white wings. You will always find me around water bodies like – rivers, lakes, ponds, mangroves etc.. I can eat many types of insects as well as, frogs, fish and crabs. I wade into the water and catch my food with my strong beak. I like to build my nests in large leafy trees like mango and tamarind.

Who do you think I am?

Card Number: 9, Tailor bird

I am a small green bird with a brown-coloured head. I like to stay in wooded areas, gardens and shrubbery. I am very comfortable with human beings and do not mind hopping around their gardens and potted plants! I like to eat insects and flower nectar. I like to keep myself busy and so, you will always find me hopping or flying around! My nest is very special – I build it with a lot of care. I stitch leaves together to form a funnel and then I fill it with soft fibers, cotton wool etc. to form a cup, to lay my eggs in!

Who do you think I am?

Card Number: 10, Mynah

I am a brown-coloured bird with yellow legs and a yellow beak. I stay in pairs or in small groups. I like to stay near human beings and so, you will find me everywhere – in villages, towns and big cities. I eat many different things like – fruits, insects, kitchen scraps etc.. I love to speak and I can make different kinds of calls! My nest is made up of twigs, roots and paper and you will often find it in a hole in a tree, wall or ceiling.

Who am I?

Card Number: 11, Bulbul

I am a brown-coloured bird with a pointy black head and a red mark below my tail. I usually stay in pairs or small groups. You will find me mostly in gardens and wooded areas. I like to eat insects, fruits and berries, peas and flower nectar. I am usually very cheerful and I also have a nice voice. So, human beings are always very happy to see me in their gardens! I make my nests with twigs, roots and cobwebs, in bushes or trees.

Can you guess my name?

Card Number: 12, Swift

I am a small black bird with a white throat, a short tail and long narrow wings. I always stay in groups and love to stay around human beings. You will find me around old buildings and houses. I mostly eat insects, and since I can fly very, very fast – I catch them as I am flying in the air! In the evenings, just before it is time to rest – I and my friends play with each other – we fly high-up in the sky together - twittering and screaming away loudly! I make my nests on walls and ceilings. My nest looks like a cup and is made up of feathers and straw which I glue together with my saliva!

Who am I?

Card Number: 13, Crow

I have black wings and feathers and a grey neck. I love to stay with human beings. In fact, you could say that I am the most familiar bird in Indian cities, towns and villages. I am very smart and courageous, that is why I can survive so successfully in so many places! I can eat almost anything – rats, kitchen scraps, fruits, eggs, grain...and much more! At night, I and my friends come together to rest on our favourite trees. I make my nest high-up in the trees with twigs, coir, wire etc.. Often I and my friends make our nests on the same tree!

Who do you think I am?

Card Number: 14, Piegon

I have grey feathers on my body and some small, shiny green and purple feathers on my neck. I live in groups and love to stay near human beings. I eat a variety of grains and nuts. Some of my favourite places are grain warehouses, old buildings and rocky cliffs. When I speak, I make this sound “gootr-goo, gootr-goo”..! I like to make my nests with twigs and sticks on ledges and rooftops of buildings.

Who am I?

Card Number: 15, Great Indian bustard

I have brown and white feathers and a black crest on my head. I like to live in small groups on open grass and scrub plains. I eat grains, shoots, insects, lizards etc.. I am a very heavy bird so, I have to use all my strength to take-off from the ground when I want to fly. Once I am in the air however, I can fly easily using my strong, broad wings. My nests are like shallow depressions and I like to make them at the base of thick bushes. Over time, human beings have relentlessly hunted me and my friends. Now, only a few of us remain. The human beings have now made some laws against hunting us anymore. Thank God!

Can you guess who I am?

Card Number: 16, Cormorant

I am glistening black in colour with a long, stiff tail and a hooked beak. I eat only fish and so, I stay near water-bodies like rivers, lakes, creeks etc.. I am an expert diver and I can also swim under the water. When I want to catch fish – I dive after them, chase them under the water and capture them in my strong beak. When my stomach is full, I like to sit on a rock and dry myself by stretching out my wings. I make my nests with twigs and branches on leafy trees.

Can you guess my name?

Card Number: 17, Peacock

I live in deciduous forests usually near rivers or streams. Sometimes, I stay around towns and villages also. I love to eat grains, insects, snakes, lizards etc.. I like to stay in small groups and am very shy. I mostly walk on my legs but sometimes I fly specially, when somebody disturbs me suddenly! At night, I like to rest in large trees. I make my nest on the ground amongst dense bushes. I make a small hollow and line it with sticks and leaves. And, here is the most important clue – I am blue in colour with a long, beautiful tail and a beautiful crest on my head!

What is my name?

Card Number: 18, Crow pheasant

I am a glossy black-coloured bird with brown wings and a long, broad tail. I mostly stay alone or with one of my friends. You will find me around forests, grasslands and shrubbery. I am very comfortable with human beings so you will find me in gardens and bushes around houses, as well. I love to eat insects, lizards and mice. I look for my food by walking on the ground or hopping on tree branches. I usually make my nests on thorny bushes with twigs and leaves.

Can you guess my name?

Card Number: 19, Magpie robin

I am a smart-looking black and white bird who mostly stays alone or in pairs. I live to live near shrubbery and gardens. Since I do not mind human beings, you can see me very easily in cities, towns and villages. I usually feed on insects and flower nectar. I like to sing and I often have a favourite place, like a tree-top or post, where I like to sit and sing in the mornings! I am also a very good mimic of other birds' calls! My nests are made of grass, roots and hair. You will mostly find them in a hole in an old wall, tree-trunk or branch.

Who am I?

Card Number: 20, Sun bird

I am a small bird shiny purple in colour with a slender curved beak. I love to live in gardens, orchards, farms and even forests. I eat insects and spiders, but mostly, I drink flower nectar. My curved beak and tubular tongue help me in sucking nectar. While I receive my food from the flowers, in return, I help them in 'pollination' or in spreading their seeds to different places! You will find my nests hanging from the tip of a branch of a bush or creeper. They look like pouches made of grass, cobwebs and pieces of bark.

Who am I?

Card Number: 21, Lapwing

I have brown and white feathers with a black head and neck. I can live in different kinds of places - farms, open fields, dry beds of rivers, ponds etc.. I love to eat insects and mollusks. I am always alert and ready to raise an alarm if I see anyone coming! When I speak it sounds like I am saying “Did-he-do-it?”, “Did-he-do-it?” ...! I lay my eggs on open ground, sometimes with a ring of pebbles around it. The colour of my eggs matches that of the ground so well...that it is almost impossible to find them!

And my name is...?

Card Number: 22, Hornbill

I have grey feathers, an enormous black and white beak and a long tail. I also have a casque on top of my beak. I like to live in large trees and so, you will often find me in banyan and peepul grooves near villages and towns. I love eating fruits but at times I also eat insects, lizards and mice. I have really big wings hence, when I fly from one tree to another I make a lot of noise! I make my nests in tree hollows. When it is time to lay the eggs the Mama-bird goes inside the hollow. The Papa-bird closes the mouth of the hollow with his droppings, leaving only a small slit, through which he feeds Mama-bird. Once the chicks hatch Papa-bird makes the mouth of the hollow wider and the Mama-bird comes out of the nest!

Can you guess my name?

Card Number: 23, Woodpecker

I have lovely golden feathers on my back and black and white ones on my breast. I also have a red crest on my head and a very strong beak. I love staying in forests, groves and orchards and I especially like coconut and mango trees. My favourite food is insects and I look for them on the tree trunks by tapping and chiseling away the bark on the tree trunks. I also eat black ants, fruits and flower nectar. I can walk up the tree trunks in a straight line or in spirals. I can also slide down tree trunks as if in 'reverse gear'! I make my nests by creating hollows in stems or branches of trees.

Who am I?

Card Number: 24, Duck

I have brown a body and bright orange-red legs. I like to live in pairs or in small groups. You will always find me in rivers and lakes. I like to eat leaves and roots of water plants. When I look for food I tip my body into the water. This makes me look a little funny because you can only see my tail sticking out of the water at this time. But then, this way I get to eat really fresh and juicy leaves so, I do not mind! I make my nests with grass and weeds along the marshy banks of rivers and lakes.

Who do you think I am?

Card Number: 25, Fantail

I am a brown bird with a lovely tail that looks like a fan! I like to stay in gardens and shrubbery. I stay in cities and towns also, but only where there are a lot of trees and shrubs. I like to eat a variety of insects and I look for them all the time, either on the ground or, in the air. I have a lovely voice and can sing many beautiful notes. I can also make a neat little nest by using grass, fibers and cobwebs.

Can you guess who I am?

Card Number: 26, Hoopoe

I am a brown-coloured bird with lovely black and white zebra-like markings on my wings, back and tail. I also have a beautiful fan-shaped crest on my head. I love to stay in lawns and gardens, in and around villages and towns. I love to eat insects and hence, I am a great help to the farmer! I look for my food by walking on the ground and poking the soil with my beak. When I speak, it sounds like this – “Hoo-po, hoo-po-po”..! You will find my nests in tree hollows and holes in the walls or ceilings of houses. I make my nest with straw and rags. Although it is a strong nest, I find it difficult to keep it clean and so it often has a bad smell!

Can you guess who I am?

Card Number: 27, Flamingo

I have long legs and a really long neck as well. I have white and pink feathers, brilliant scarlet wings and a curved, pink beak. I live to live near shallow rivers, lagoons and salt pans. I love to eat worms, insect larvae and seeds of water plants. I always stay with my friends and we love to talk with each other. We also like to fly alongside each other and we often fly in V-formations or single files. I and my friends also make our nests next to each others. We make our nests on the ground. They are about 6 inches tall and made out of mud.

Who do you think I am?

Card Number: 28, Sparrow

I am a small brown and white bird who loves to live near human beings. I can live in many different places likes – hills, plains and forest hamlets etc.. I love to different kinds of food like - grain, insects, fruits, flower nectar and kitchen scraps. In the evening, I and my friends come together to talk with each other and rest on our favourite trees. I make my nests out of straw and feathers using a hole in a ceiling, wall or any other safe place.

Can you guess my name?

Card Number: 29, Bee eater

I am a small green bird with a long, slender beak. I usually stay in pairs or small groups. I love to stay near farms, forests, gardens etc., and you can often see me sitting on electrical wires and fences. I like to eat insects, especially bees – and the best part is that I am able to catch them as I am flying in the air! In the evening, I and my friends play with each other – we fly around and make a lot of noise. Finally, when we are tired we rest on our favourite leafy tree for the night! I make my nests by digging into the ground. My nest has a narrow tunnel leading into a wide chamber where I lay my eggs!

Who am I?

Common Birds (Easily seen in Mumbai)

Egret (Hindi: Gai Bagla)

Kite (Hindi: Cheel)

Koel (Hindi: Koel, Marathi: Kokila)

Parakeet (Hindi: Tota, Marathi: Popat)

Swift (Hindi: Babila)

Pigeon (Hindi: Kabutar, Marathi: Paarvaa)

Pond Heron (Hindi: Andha Bagla)

Crow (Hindi: Kowwa)

Mynah (Hindi: Myna)

Bulbul (Hindi: Bulbul)

Tailor Bird (Hindi: Darzi, Marathi: Shimpi)

Sun Bird (Hindi: Shakarkhora)

Sparrow (Hindi: Gauriyya)

Magpie Robin (Hindi: Daiyar, Marathi: Dayal)

Crow Pheasant (Hindi: Mahoka, Marathi: Bhardwaj)

Not So Common Birds (Seen less frequently in Mumbai)

Lapwing (Hindi: Titeeri, Marathi: Titwi)

Cormorant (Hindi: Pan Kaowa)

Duck (Hindi: Bathak)

Woodpecker (Hindi: Katphora)

Hornbill (Hindi: Chalotra, Marathi: Rakhi Dhanesh)

Hoopoe (Hindi: Hudhud, Marathi: Hudhud)

Bee Eater (Hindi: Patringa, Marathi: Veda Raghu)

Owl (Hindi: Ullu, Marathi: Ghubad)

Fantail (Hindi: Nachan, Marathi: Nachan)

Sea Gull (Hindi: Dhomra)

Some Special Birds

Sarus Crane (Hindi: Saras)

Great Indian Bustard (Hind: Tuqdar)

Peacock (Hindi: Mor)

Flamingo (Hindi:Raj Hans, Marathi:Rohit Agnipankh)



Egret



Kite



Koel



Parakeet



Swift



Piegon



Pond heron



Crow



Mynah



Bulbul



Tailor bird



Bee eater



Magpie robin



Crow pheasant



Lapwing



Cormorant



Duck



Woodpecker



Hornbill



Hoopoe



Bee eater



Owl



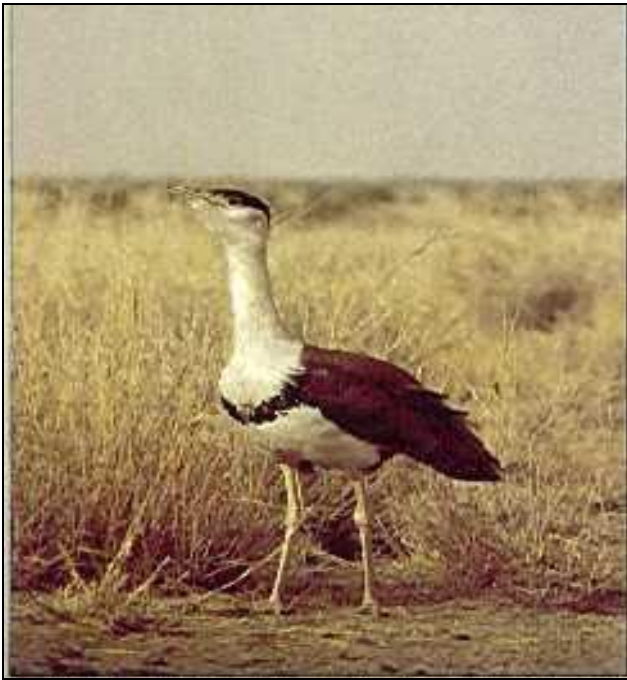
Fantail



Seagull



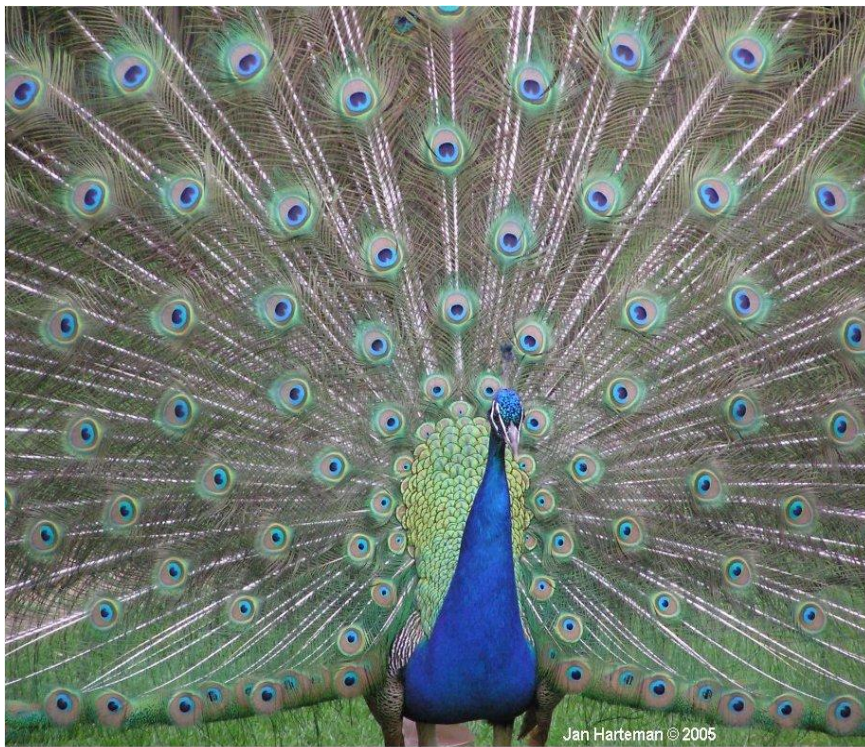
Sarus Crane



Great Indian Bustard



Flamingo



Peacock



Sparrow

Who Am I Cards - Birds
Check your work!

Card No.	Bird Name	Card No.	Bird Name
1	Kite	16	Cormorant
2	Koel	17	Peacock
3	Seagull	18	Crow pheasant
4	Sarus crane	19	Magpie robin
5	Owl	20	Sun bird
6	Egret	21	Lapwing
7	Parakeet	22	Hornbill
8	Pond heron	23	Woodpecker
9	Tailor bird	24	Duck
10	Mynah	25	Fantail
11	Bulbul	26	Hoopoe
12	Swift	27	Flamingo
13	Crow	28	Sparrow
14	Pigeon	29	Bee eater
15	Great Indian bustard		