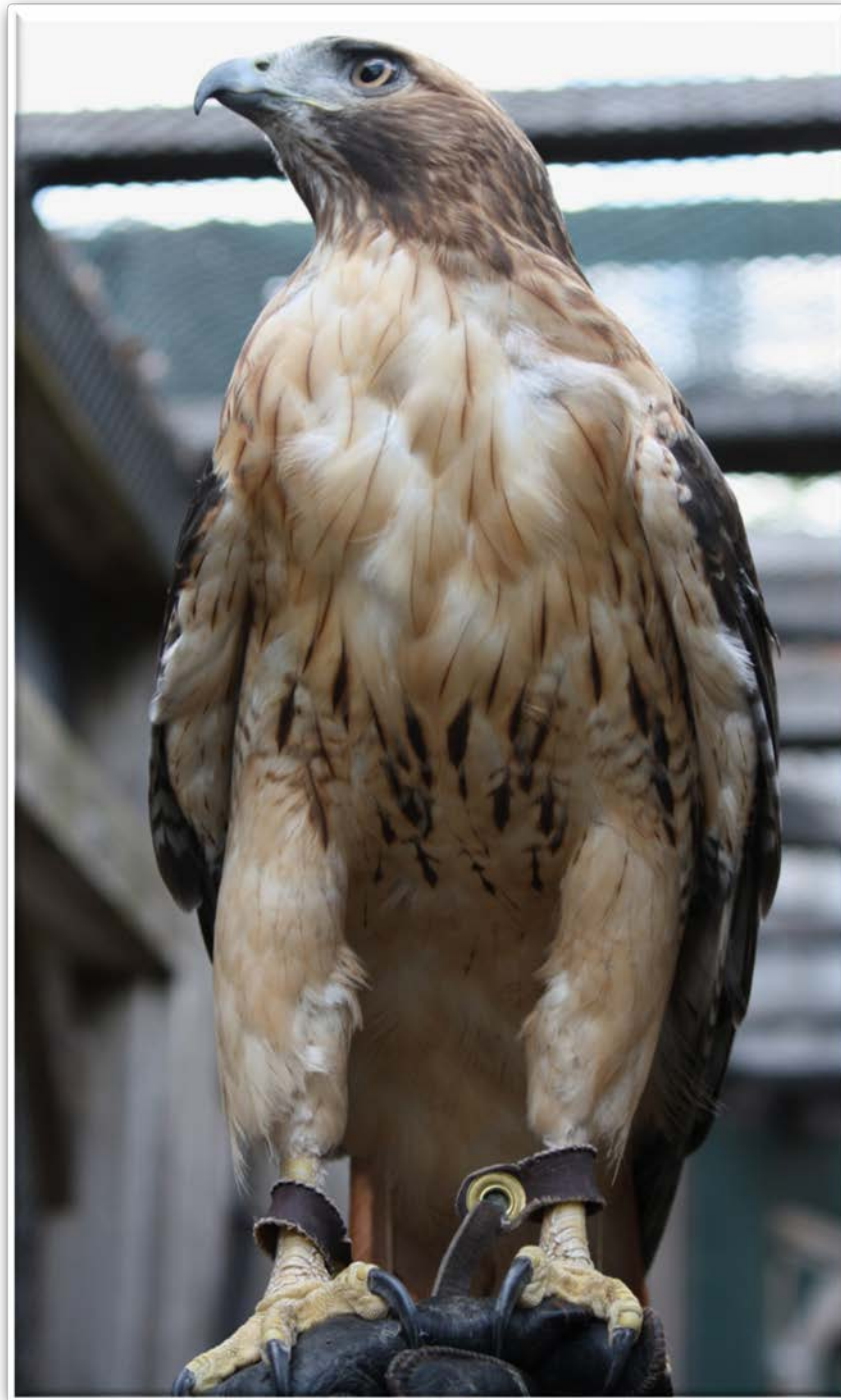


Red-tailed Hawk Activity Book



The Raptor Center

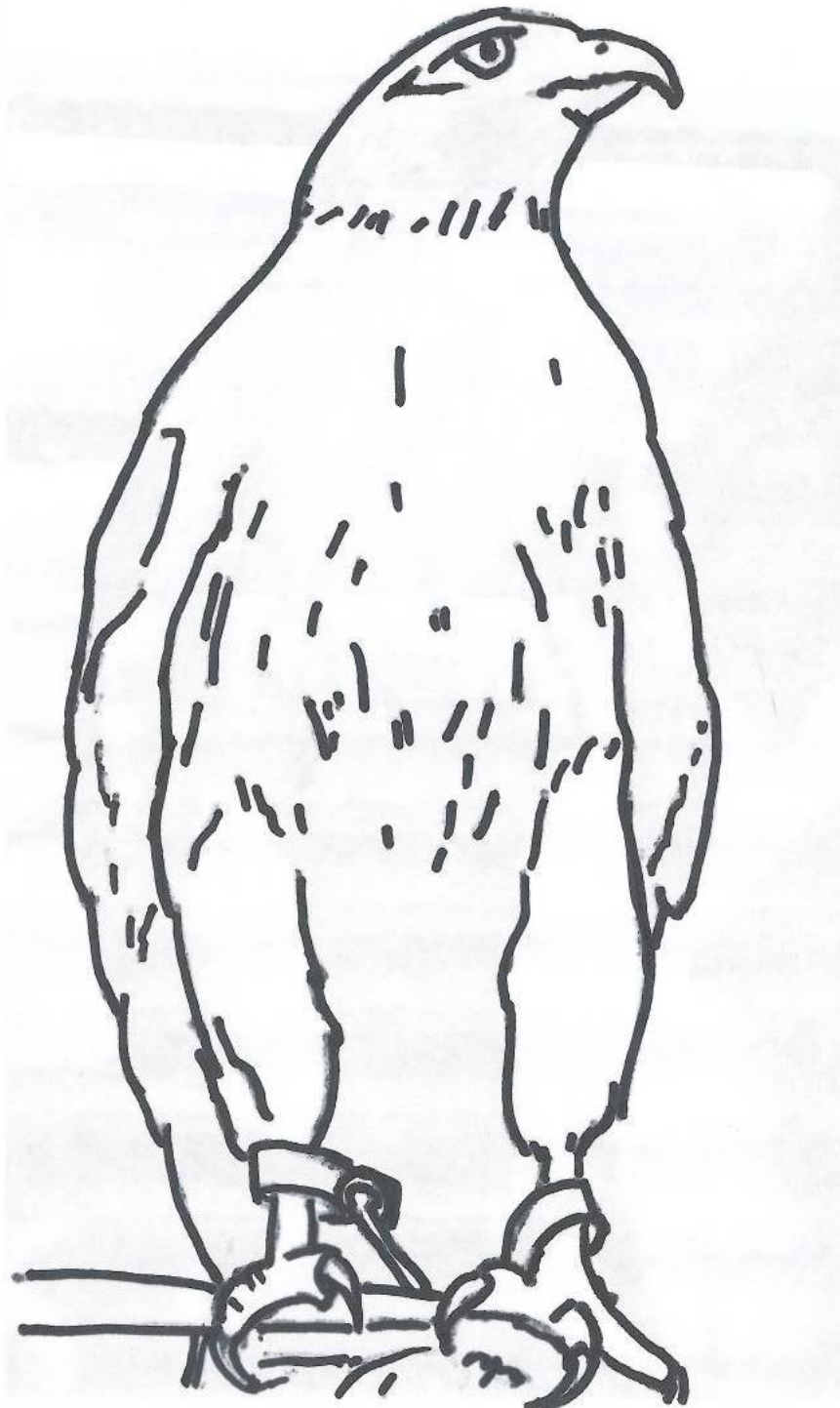
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Red-tailed Hawk Coloring Page



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Red-tailed Hawk Quick Facts Sheet



The Red-tailed Hawk's scientific name is *Buteo jamaicensis*.

Appearance: Meet one of the most common birds of prey in North America. This large hawk has very broad, rounded wings and a short, wide tail. It usually weighs between two and four pounds and has a wingspan (the length from one wingtip to the other) from 4 to 5 feet long. Most Red-tailed Hawks are rich brown above and pale below with streaked bellies. Their tails are usually cinnamon-red above and pale below. But don't be fooled: they can be difficult to identify because they have many plumage morphs (different feather colors and patterns).

Fun Facts! Red-tailed Hawks are sometimes referred to as "2x4's", because they stand two feet high and have a four foot wing span!

There are 14 subspecies of this hawk that range in color from a light phase morph (Krider's) to a red-rufous morph to a dark phase morph. A dark-phase bird has very little light coloring and appears totally dark brown with a warm red tail. A rufous-phase bird is reddish-brown on the chest with a dark belly. A light-phase bird is mostly white, with no markings on its white chest and belly, and it has a very light-colored head. In all of the color phases, the undersides of the primaries are light-colored.



Light phase morph

Fun Facts! Immature (young) Red-tailed Hawks resemble the adults, except that their tails are brown with dark bars. They get their red tails during their second year.

Sound: Listen for a powerful, descending "kreeeeear" call.

Fun Facts! In movies, when you see a bald eagle, you'll usually hear the powerful call of the Red-tailed Hawk. People think it sounds more majestic than the eagle's call.

Flight: These soaring hawks are often seen circling high in the air or perching on telephone poles or in trees along the sides of roads.

What it eats: These birds have broad appetites. They feed on a wide variety of mammals: mice, voles, chipmunks, squirrels, rabbits, gophers, and more. But they also like to eat lizards, amphibians, snakes, and medium-sized birds.

How it hunts: Red-tailed Hawks soar, perch, and fly low to the ground to find prey with their keen eyesight. Once prey is spotted, the hawk dives or pounces on its prey, carrying it away in its strong talons. They normally take their prey to a feeding perch to eat it.

Where you will see one: Almost everywhere in North America! Its breeding range extends from central Alaska through Canada and across the entire United States, south through Mexico and into Central America. Look for them around open fields, especially near woodlots close to farms and cities. Not a bird of the deep woods, it is usually found in grassland habitat.



Dark phase morph



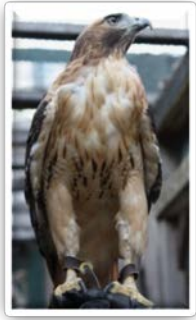
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Red-tailed Hawk Word Find

Find the words forward, backward, or diagonally!

G	F	O	P	E	N	F	I	E	L	D	S	D	S	S	V	F	J	P	K	O	B	J
R	S	N	S	H	K	J	T	P	P	R	B	H	J	M	N	Y	J	K	I	S	I	L
A	F	Z	M	S	A	I	K	M	S	O	M	L	A	R	G	E	H	A	W	K	A	D
N	W	C	I	L	G	O	P	A	D	U	K	M	B	C	R	P	Y	U	N	B	D	O
D	T	V	C	B	H	J	S	B	E	N	J	E	R	X	A	Y	J	K	S	O	F	U
A	B	N	E	N	H	G	B	I	R	D	S	A	C	H	S	R	E	D	W	N	N	F
R	W	L	D	C	V	B	H	J	M	E	N	K	L	I	S	O	R	T	D	R	L	L
K	A	I	R	M	E	N	H	G	C	D	H	J	M	N	L	D	X	R	U	K	L	U
P	F	G	D		B	R	O	A	D	W	I	N	G	S	A	T	R	F	H	E	S	I
H	B	M	O	E	U	B	M	S	E	I	O	N	E	W	N	N	O	E	E	C	E	B
A	S	T	A	C	T	T	T	H	E	N	J	B	N	R	D	U	V	K	J	O	L	D
S	D	I	G	M	E	A	L	S	F	G	S	T	A	E	S	N	R	D	S	X	O	Z
E	C	N	H	T	O	C	I	D	I	S	D	I	G	P	G	C	T	E	F	O	P	O
D	C	V	B	H	J	B	E	L	S	C	A	C	H	T	S	S	H	L	U	Y	E	T
R	M	E	N	H	A	L	X	O	H	E	F	A	D	I	G	Q	A	L	R	E	N	R
P	S	L	A	M	M	A	M	R	M	E	S	H	G	L	R	M	E	I	O	R	O	L
J	T	O	U	C	A	C	O	N	E	E	M	S	S	E	S	A	I	A	D	X	H	Z
S	O	S	R	W	I	A	R	U	P	L	L	E	R	S	C	T	I	T	H	W	P	X
O	L	C	N	H	C	S	T	H	E	B	V	F	E	K	T	G	H	T	K	M	E	N
N	D	A	L	S	E	M	A	M	P	H	I	B	I	A	N	S	F	R	H	K	L	K
R	O	S	R	W	N	M	O	F	S	M	V	T	E	S	F	J	R	O	T	R	E	S
M	O	B	M	O	S	G	O	P	A	X	O	I	N	F	Y	L	W	H	H	K	T	F
E	W	L	T	L	I	G	H	T	P	H	A	S	E	L	G	R	Y	S	L	O	W	E
I	W	R	U	T	S	L	N	O	R	T	R	X	L	U	W	O	W	E	R	T	X	S
Z	H	N	Z	Q	U	U	C	J	L	Q	P	Y	U	N	B	D	O	W	E	R	T	J

Buteo Jamaicensis	Large Hawk	Broad Wings
Rounded Wings	Wide Tail	Short Tail
Light Phase	Rufous Phase	Dark Phase
Telephone Poles	Mammals	Mice
Reptiles	Birds	Amphibians
Open Fields	Woodlots	Grasslands



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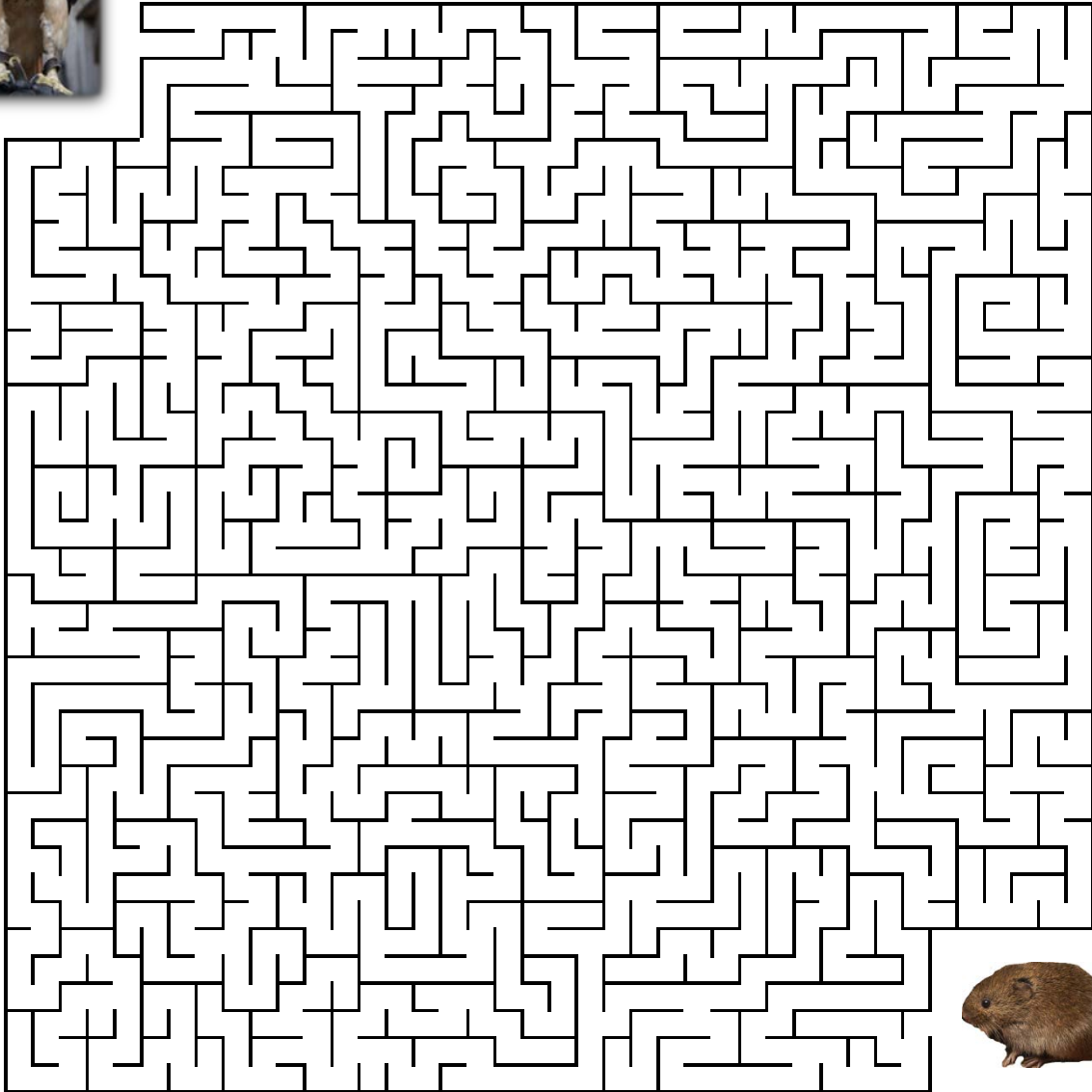
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Red-tailed Hawk Maze



The Raptor Center

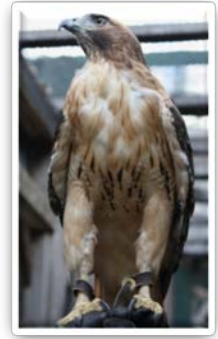
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Red-tailed Hawk Hidden Message



Use the key below to learn another name the Red-tailed Hawk has been called.

4 12 11

20 12 6 20 21 11 23

12 3 26 21

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
3	15	20	14	11	16	8	12	6	1	21	17	18	23	25	7	22	5	9	4	19	13	26	24	2	10



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Red-tailed Hawk Word Scramble

Unscramble the words below to learn when Red-tailed Hawks feed.

Y T E H E F D E

— — — — — — — —

I N D R U G E T H

— — — — — — — —

A Y D

— — — ,

A D L R I N U

— — — — — — —



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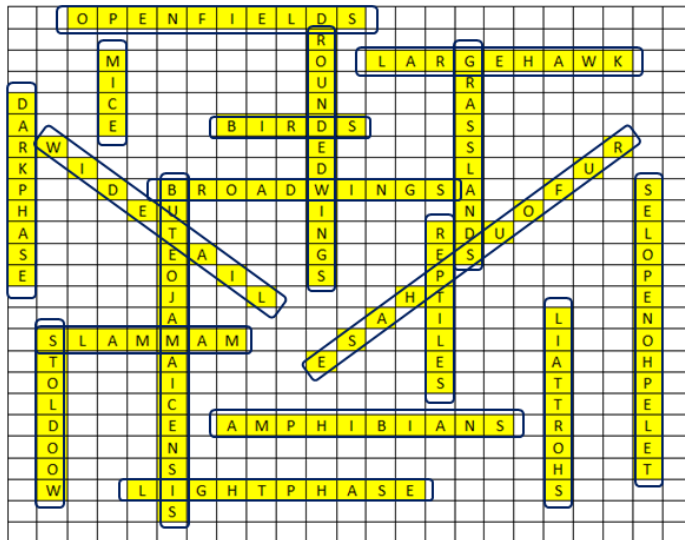
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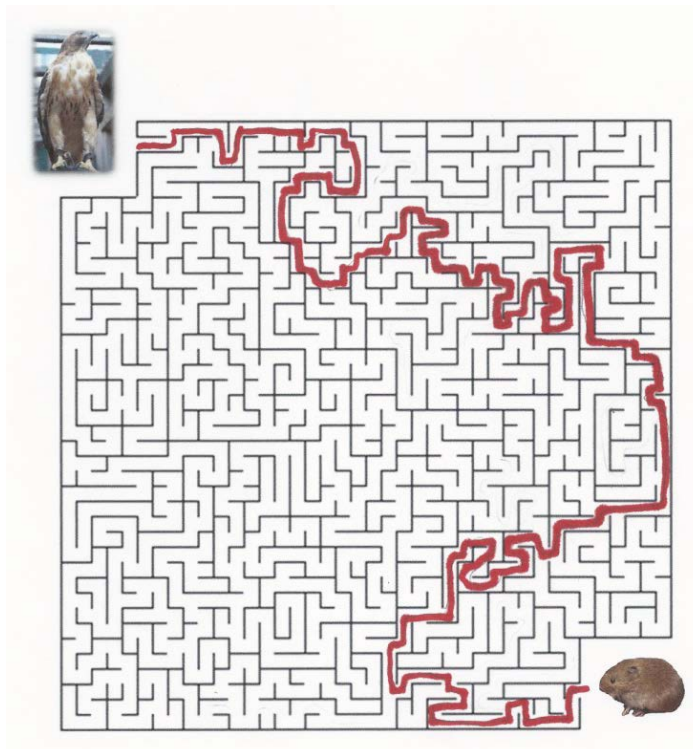
Red-tailed Hawk Activity Book - Answer Key



Word Find



Maze



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Hidden Message

Y	T	E	H		E	F	D	E	
<u>T</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>Y</u>		<u>F</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>D</u>	
I	N	D	R	U	G		E	T	H
<u>D</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>G</u>		<u>T</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>
A	Y	D							
<u>D</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Y</u>	,						
A	D	L	R	I	N	U			
<u>D</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>L</u>			



Word Scramble

<u>T</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>				
4	12	11				
<u>C</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>N</u>
20	12	6	20	21	11	23
<u>H</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>K</u>			
12	3	26	21			



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