Bexley
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Thank you for your interest in our **Family Birding Kit**!

We hope you enjoy this opportunity for nature exploration and lifelong learning.

Your Birding Kit Includes

- Mubasel Gear Backpack (1)
- A Luggage tag containing barcode information (1)
- Celestron 71332 Nature DX 8x42 Binoculars with case, eyepiece covers, and neckstrap (1)
- Wingspan Optics Spectator 8x32 Compact Binoculars with case, eyepiece covers, and neckstrap (1)
- *The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America*, 2nd Edition (1)
- *Birds of Ohio Field Guide*, 2nd Edition by Stan Tekiela (1)
- *Ohio Birds: A Folding Pocket Guide to Familiar Species* by James Kavanagh (1)
- Laminated Birding Activity Sheets – one checklist and one BINGO (2)
- Expo Marker (1)
- Laminated information sheet detailing contents of pack and Birding Quick Start Guide (1)

Circulating Birding Kit Info

- Only Full Access BPL card holders can check out the kits.
- Checkout limit is two per card
- Loan period is 2 weeks with no renewals
- Hold limit is 2 per card
- **An overdue fine of $5 per day will be issued.** The borrower will be responsible for replacement fees if items in the pack are lost or damaged beyond normal wear and tear.

Replacement Fees

- Celestron 71332 Nature DX 8x42 Binoculars: $112
- Wingspan Optics Spectator 8x32 Compact Binoculars: $65
- Mubasel Gear Backpack: $18
- *The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America*, 2nd Edition: $14
- *Birds of Ohio Field Guide*, 2nd Edition by Stan Tekiela: $8
- *Ohio Birds: A Folding Pocket Guide to Familiar Species* by James Kavanagh: $8

Need Help? Ask Us!

Call (614) 231-2793

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Birding Quick Start Guide

Popular Places to Bird in Central Ohio

- Blendon Woods Metro Park
- Pickerington Ponds Metro Park
- Greenlawn Cemetery
- Scioto Audubon Metro Park

Using your Binoculars

Never look directly at the sun through the binoculars. Start by adjusting the eye distance so that you can see clearly through the eyepieces with no dark areas. Do this by gripping the binoculars on each side and gently pushing the sides in and down to decrease the distance between the eye pieces. Gently pull out and up to increase the distance.

To focus your binoculars, start by closing one eye and turning the grip on the eyepiece of your open eye until the image through the eyepiece is relatively clear. Then, open both eyes and use your middle finger to turn the gripped dial in the middle of the binoculars back and forth until the image becomes clearer. As it gets more clear, continue until the image is completely in focus.

Identifying Birds

Look for these key aspects to easily identify birds.

- **Habitat** - Birds have particular habitats where they like to hang out. Paying attention to where you are will help you narrow down the type of bird you are seeing. You wouldn't expect to find a flamingo in Ohio or a duck at your porch feeder. Knowing what birds are *probably* already in your area or the habitat where you're birding will make identifying the birds you see much easier.
- **Behavior** - Bird species look and act unique. Common bird behaviors will tell you not just what bird you're looking at but also where to find the bird you want to see. If you're interested in seeing Eastern Bluebirds, you'll often find them flying around the Bluebird boxes at your local metro park, but you wouldn't expect to find a Brown Thrasher poking its head out of one of these boxes. When identifying birds, keep in mind that how a bird acts, sings, and eats is just as important for identification as how it looks.
- **Size and Shape** - Determine size and shape based on birds you know well. Is the bird the size of a crow or a sparrow? Does the silhouette look more like a duck or a heron? This will help you narrow down what you're seeing from afar before you get your closer look.
- **Color Pattern** - As soon as you see a bird, take in the overall pattern of color, including lights and darks. Was there a white bar across the wing as the bird took flight? Did that sparrow have a bright white throat? Paying attention to overall patterns as well as smaller details will help you get a true identification.