



# Birding Maker Kit

## Guide

This kit has everything you need to get started in birding or bird watching. “What’s the difference?” you may ask. Crudely put, bird-watchers look at birds; birders look for them. This kit and guide provide you with tools and resources to excel at either.

In the included DVD *How to Start Watching Birds*, naturalist Diane Porter shares all the most useful secrets from her popular birding classes. Review the binoculars instruction booklet to adjust and focus the binoculars for your eyes. Both a neck strap and harness strap are included for you to wear the binoculars in whatever configuration is most comfortable for you. Now you’re ready to go find some birds!

The best place to start is your own backyard. The included book *National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America* will help you identify your finds. There are also several free smartphone apps that can assist in identification. These can be found in the [Best Free Birding Apps](#) link below.

Also included in this kit is a smartphone adapter, which will allow you to attach your phone to the binoculars to photograph the birds you find. This would be a great time to start your Birding Life List — your personal catalog of all the birds you’ve seen. Start simple with a basic notebook, or go high-tech and use an app on your smartphone. [eBird](#) is probably the easiest to use. Find it for free in your app store or on the list below.

When you’re done in your backyard, you can move on to more wild places like parks and other natural areas. Lists of the best local places to find birds can be found at the [Dayton Audubon Society](#) and [Ohio Ornithological Society](#) websites, listed below.

## Birding Resources

### Best Free Birding Apps

<http://www.birdsandblooms.com/birding/birding-basics/5-birding-apps/>

### Ohio Ornithological Society

<https://ohiobirds.org/>

### Dayton Audubon Society

<https://daytonaudubon.org/dayton-area-birding-sites>

### American Birding Association - Ohio News

<http://birding.aba.org/maillistdigest/OH>

## Troubleshooting

If you experience problems, please contact the Reference Desk at [cvref@wcpl.lib.oh.us](mailto:cvref@wcpl.lib.oh.us).

## Feedback

We would love to hear how your experience was! Please complete this survey:

<http://goo.gl/forms/CuU9efutyX>

Also, feel free to share your experience with us on social media:

<https://www.facebook.com/wclibrary.info>

<https://twitter.com/washcentlibrary>

