

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# EASTERN BLUEBIRD

Latin Name: *Sialia sialis*

Kanien'kéha Name: Tioròn:iase' (fresh or new blue)

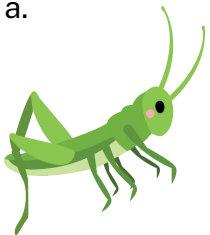



## DESCRIPTION

The eastern bluebird is a small migratory thrush. The males are bright royal blue in colour with a rust-coloured throat and breast. Females are more grey with bluish wings and tails with a orange-brown breast. They have long wings but fairly short tail and legs. Their bill is short and straight.



**In our Creation Story, the Creator awarded the bluebird the status of bringing in the springtime.**

**Which of the following would a baby bluebird NOT eat:**

- a.  b.  c.  d. 



**Kahnawà:ke Environment  
Protection Office**

## CLASSIFICATION

Kingdom: Animalia  
Phylum: Chordata  
Class: Aves  
Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Turdidae  
Genus: *Sialia*  
Species: *S. sialis*

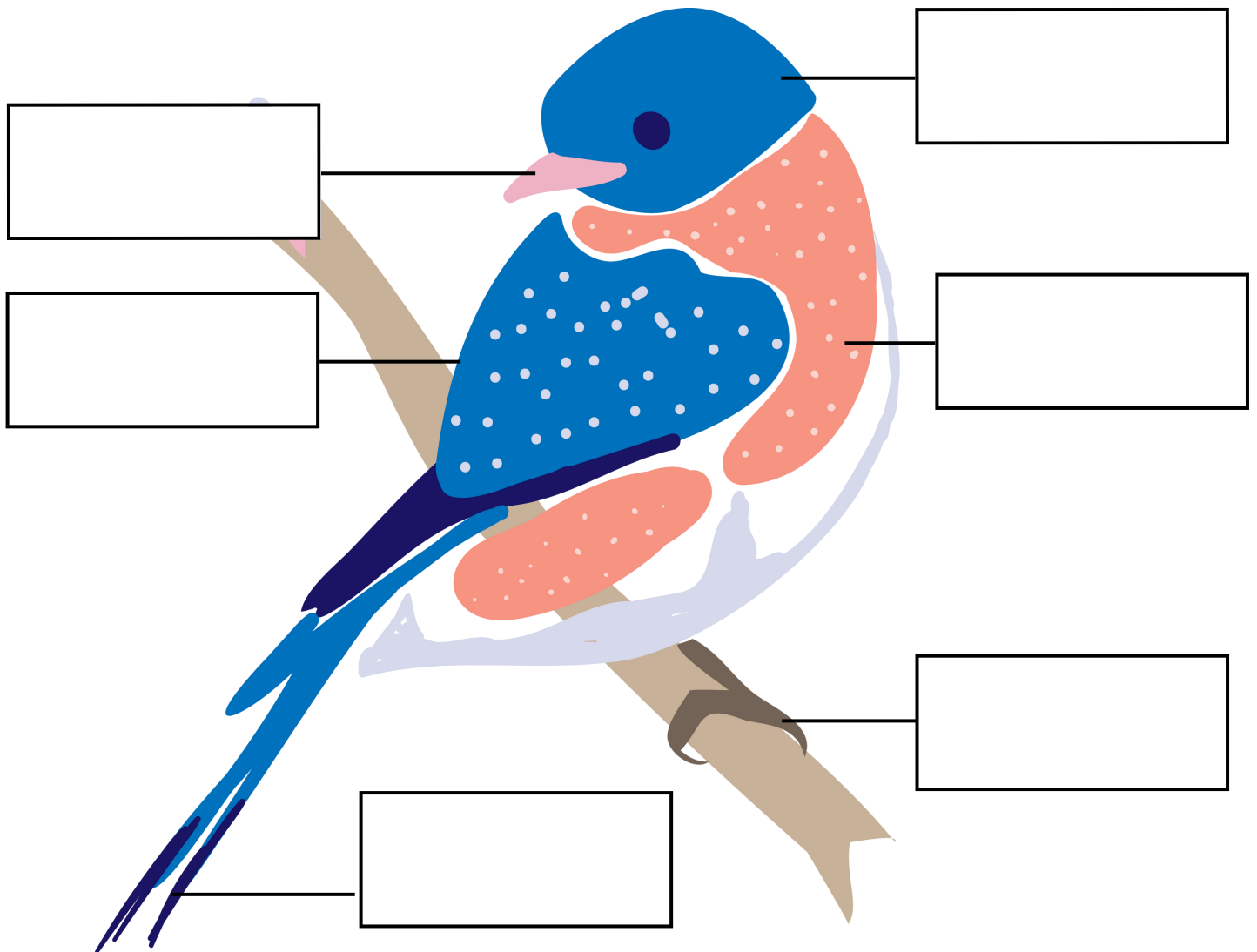


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# PARTS OF A BIRD

Match the words below to the parts of the bird.



Breast	Back (dorsum)	Beak (bill)
Claws	Crown	Tail Feathers

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# MIGRATION



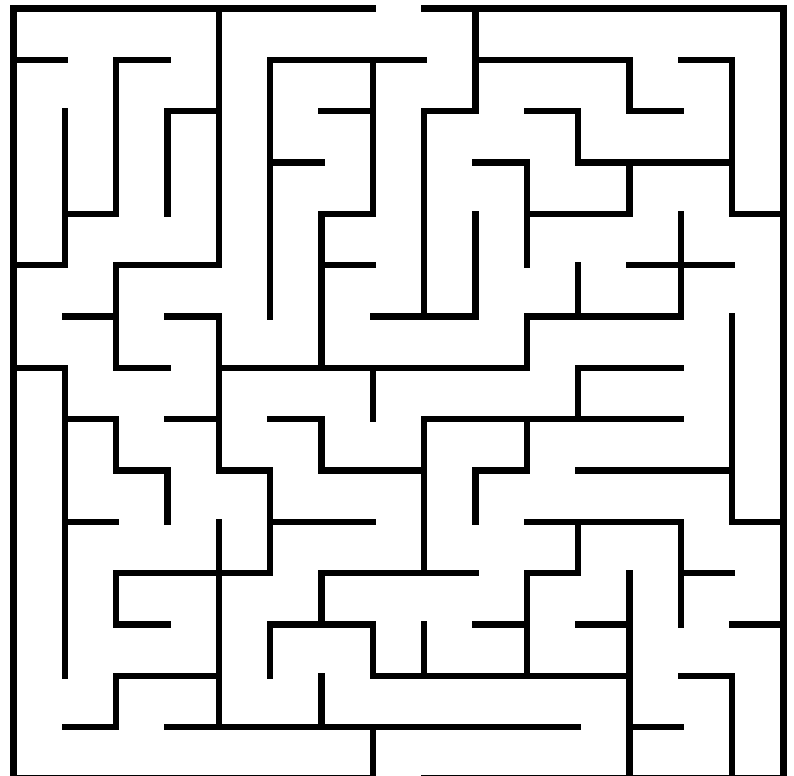
The eastern bluebird is a permanent resident in many southern areas. Some populations will travel north in early spring. Bluebirds that breed in the northernmost regions of the species' range are **obligate migrants**. These birds must leave the freezing winter temperatures in the region.

## MIGRATION MAZE

Help the bluebird find his way south for the winter!



Start



Finish

## WHY DO SOME BIRDS MIGRATE?

Migration is the travelling of long distances for food. Migration is a part of the survival of many types of birds. In the winter, there is not enough food for certain birds. They will fly to warmer areas to find food and return north in the spring to breed.

**FACT:** Not all birds migrate. Birds such as pigeons, crows and ravens are able to survive in the winter.

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# HABITAT

Eastern bluebirds can usually be found perched on telephone poles or atop nest boxes. Bluebirds live in meadows and large fields surrounded by trees. Bluebirds are **cavity nesters**, which means they will build their nests in holes in old trees or posts.

## Decorate the Nest Box



## NEST TRAILS

Habitat loss and the switch from wooden fencing to metal posts, has made natural nest sites hard to find. We can help eastern bluebirds by putting up nest boxes or creating bluebird trails. A bluebird trail is a group of nest boxes placed close by each other.

