

SPECIES TO LOOK FOR

Observation season

 Winter

 Spring

 Summer

 Fall

TURKEY VULTURE



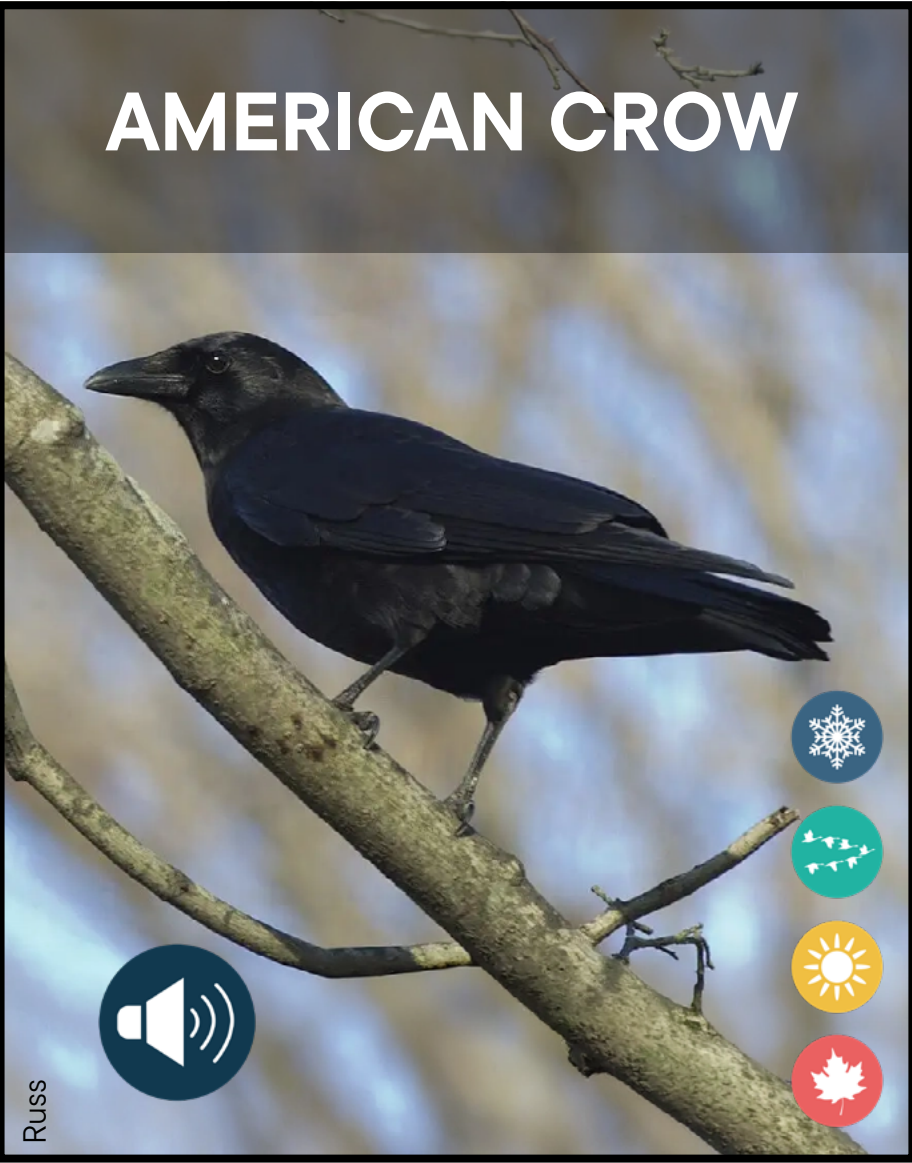
RED SQUIRREL



PINK LADY'S SLIPPER



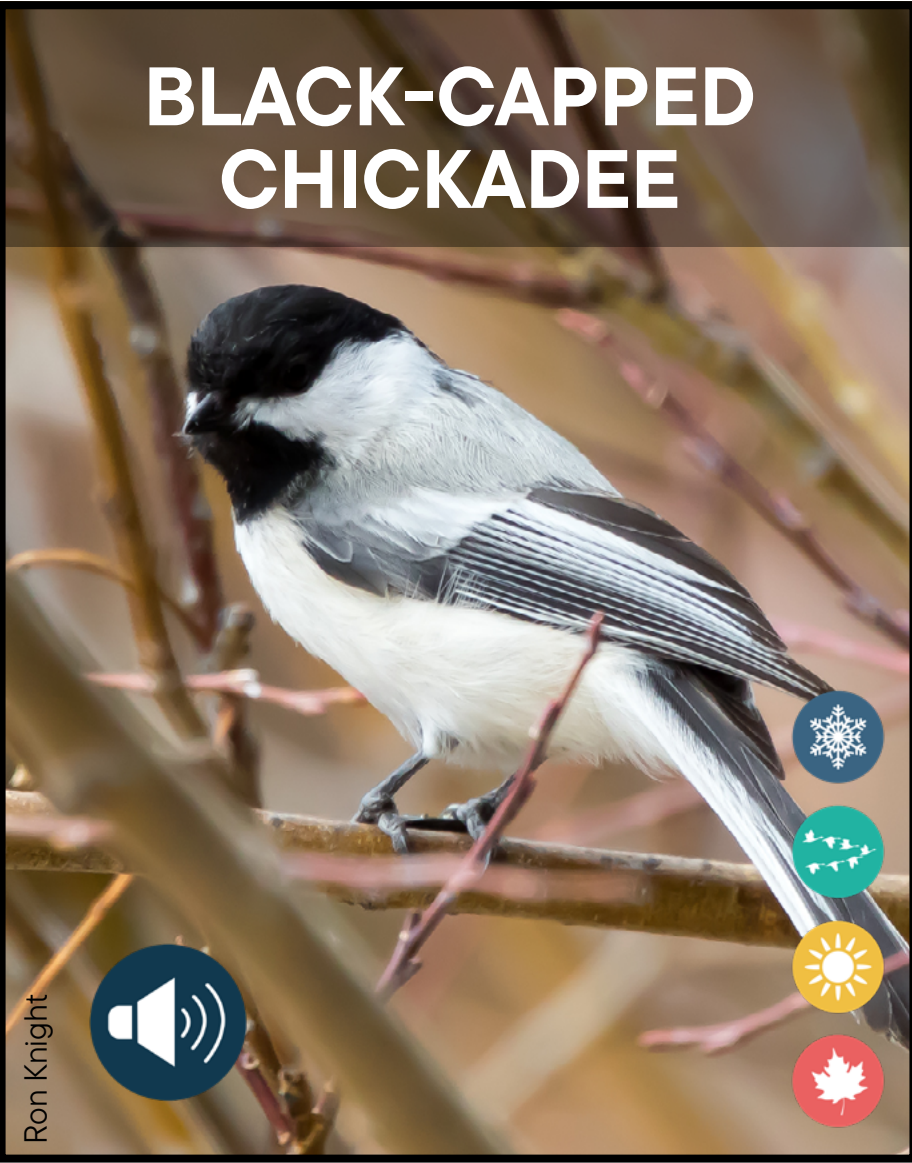
AMERICAN CROW



GREAT BLUE HERON



BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE



LICHEN



TURKEY TAIL



CANADIAN BUNCHBERRY



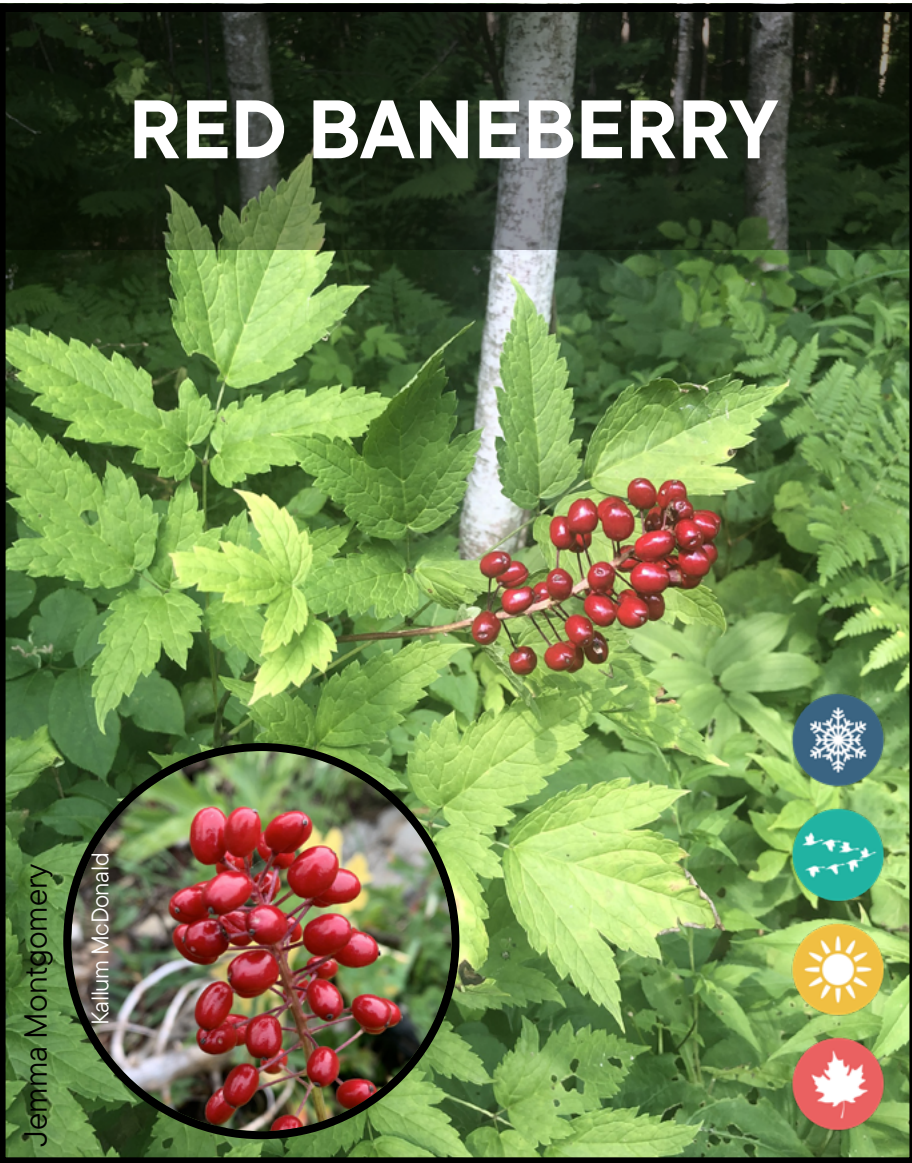
AMERICAN GOLDFINCH



JACK PINE



RED BANEERRY



CROSS ORB WEAVER



RING-BILLED GULL



COMMON EASTERN BUMBLE BEE



SPECIES TO LOOK FOR

TURKEY VULTURE

This large scavenging bird of prey **soars in circles**, riding the updrafts. Unlike most birds, its highly developed sense of smell allows it to detect carcasses from a distance. It can be recognized in flight over the woods by its **V-shaped silhouette** and its bare, red head. In winter, it is absent from the area because it migrates. It returns in early spring.

RED SQUIRREL



This small rodent has reddish-brown fur, with a white belly and white patches around its eyes. Easy to spot thanks to its **alarm calls**, year-round, it eats seeds and occasionally eggs. It leaves behind **gnawed pinecones and scales on the ground**. In the spring, it builds a **nest of leaves** in trees. In the winter, it takes refuge in tree hollows.

PINK LADY'S SLIPPER



This plant, a member of the orchid family, can be recognized between April and July by its pink, three-petaled flower. The central petal resembles a slipper. Its glossy green leaves turn yellow in the fall, and its fruit—a **capsule**—turns brown. Sometimes the capsule remains on the stem through the winter. It is found in the shade in the damp areas of the woods.

AMERICAN CROW



Don't confuse it with the raven! Smaller in size, with a **rounded tail** and a **high-pitched call**, it lives in flocks, frequents open areas, and nests in conifers, such as pines. There, it builds a **platform made of thick branches**. Some crows stay here in the winter, while others migrate. They can be seen throughout the wooded area.

GREAT BLUE HERON

This wading bird, the largest in Quebec, can be found along the banks of the estuary. Standing motionless, it waits patiently before snatching its prey or piercing it with a swift movement of its long bill. From spring to fall, it can be seen flying over the woods: it has a **distinctive silhouette with its curved neck**. In winter, it migrates to the southern United States.

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE



This small black-and-white bird is common and easy to spot throughout the woods. It is recognizable by its **distinctive call**: “tchick-a-dee-dee-dee.” It often stays in **groups**. Throughout the year, it can be spotted darting back and forth between branches.

LICHEN



Lichen is an organism formed by a symbiotic relationship between an alga and a fungus. It grows on rocks and trees in **various shapes and colors**. It can be seen on tree trunks throughout the year. After the snow melts, look for it on rocks and stumps on the ground.

TURKEY TAIL

This mushroom grows in **colonies** on dead wood. It forms **semicircles** or fans with colorful bands that resemble a turkey's tail. Over time, small mushrooms appear at the base of the older ones, which become paler. The growing season runs from July to October, but it is a persistent species and can be seen in winter.

CANADIAN BUNCHBERRY

This forest plant, which grows in clumps, has four green leaves arranged in a cross. It bears **several tiny flowers surrounded by white leaves** called bracts. Its flowers give way to small **red berries**. In the winter, it is difficult to spot this understory plant because it is buried under the snow.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH

This bird has black wings with white bars. The male has **bright yellow plumage** in the summer. It is often seen perched on thistles, mainly near the edges of wooded areas. Some individuals remain in Quebec during the winter, and their **plumage is much less vivid**. Migratory birds return between March and April.

JACK PINE



The needles of this conifer **grow in pairs** and remain on the branches all year round. Its **cones are curved**, and new ones appear between May and June. Its **straight trunk** and **grayish bark** are also characteristic features. When fully grown, it can reach a height of 15 to 20 meters.

RED BANEBERRY



This forest plant, with its **serrated leaves**, produces **clusters of bright red berries** that catch the eye, even in winter. Its small **white spring flowers** are followed by fruits that can remain on the branches from fall through spring, standing out against the snowy landscape. They are often found in the shadier areas toward the center of the woods.

CROSS ORB WEAVER



This small spider is recognizable by the white cross on its abdomen. Throughout the woods, it is often found in the center of a **circular web** that it weaves anew every day. The cross orb weaver dies in the fall after reproducing. The next generation survives the winter in the form of **eggs**, nestled in the bark of a tree. The eggs hatch in late spring, releasing young spiders.

RING-BILLED GULL



This large white and gray bird has a yellow beak with a black ring. It tends to gather in **groups** and has a **distinctive call**. In the winter, the populations migrate south; they can be seen in the region between April and September. At low tide, large numbers of them can be found on the beach. They can also be spotted **in flight**. It is the most common gull in North America.

COMMON EASTERN BUMBLE BEE



This large, hairy black-and-yellow insect is an important pollinator. Its flight produces a distinctive, audible **buzzing sound**. Bumblebee colonies typically settle in **underground nests or cavities**. Only the young queens survive the winter; the rest of the colony dies with the first cold snap. As early as March or on mild days, queens may emerge from hibernation to search for a nesting site. They can be observed at the edge of the woods and in more open areas.