

Outdoor Hour Challenge

Bird Set #1 Sample

Bird Challenges

American White Pelican

Trumpeter Swan

Wilson's Snipe

Great Egret

Sandhill Crane

Clark's Nutcracker

American Dipper

Horned Lark

Black-billed Magpie

Printable Notebook Pages

General Bird Notebook Page

Advanced Bird Notebook Page

Bird Observation Sheet

Coloring Pages

Pelican Coloring Page

Tundra Swan Coloring Page

Trumpeter Swan Coloring Page

Snipe Coloring Page

Egret Coloring Page

Sandhill Crane Coloring Page

Clark's Nutcracker Coloring Page

American Dipper Coloring Page

Horned Lark Coloring Page

American White Pelican

Use the link above to view the information on AllAboutBirds.com

An alternate study can be made of the [Brown Pelican](#).

Inside Preparation Work:

- ◆ Choose a resource to use for the American white pelican, *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*.
- ◆ Make sure to look at the [range maps](#) in a field guide or on All About Birds. Take note of the location of their breeding area and migration route.
- ◆ Here are a couple YouTube videos: [Pelicans](#) and [More Advanced Video for Pelicans](#).

Field Notes for the American White Pelican

- ◆ Pelicans are large, migratory water birds with up to a 9 foot wingspan. They have short legs with webbed feet. Their tails are short and square. Pelicans are usually silent.
- ◆ Their feathers are snowy white with black feathers on their wings visible in flight. They have an orange bill and orange legs.
- ◆ Look for a horn-like growth on the top of their bill during breeding season.
- ◆ White pelicans forage for food while on the water's surface, dipping their beak into the water and often upending themselves like a duck.
- ◆ They have slow methodical wing beats when flying.
- ◆ Their diet is mainly fish (minnows, carp, sucker fish) but they also eat salamanders, crayfish, and tadpoles.

Outdoor Hour Time:

- ◆ Visit a habitat where you may find a pelican. Depending on the time of year, the habitat may be a lake, a shallow wetland, or a coastline. Look for groups of large white water birds with a pouched orange bill. They are often seen with [double-crested cormorants](#). **Tip:** We look for these birds when we are traveling...so don't forget to make nature study a part of your vacation plans!

Follow-Up Activity:

- ◆ Create a nature journal entry using the notebook page provided in this ebook.
- ◆ If you observed any other water birds, use a field guide to try to identify them.
- ◆ Advanced study: Research other birds in the Pelecanidae family. You can use the Bird Family notebook page to record your information.
- ◆ Advanced study: Create a page in your nature journal using drawings to compare the white pelican to the great egret, the sandhill crane, and/or the trumpeter swan.

Contrary to what you may see in cartoons, the pelican does not fly with its bill full of fish. They use the pouch to scoop up food but swallow it before they fly again.





Pelican