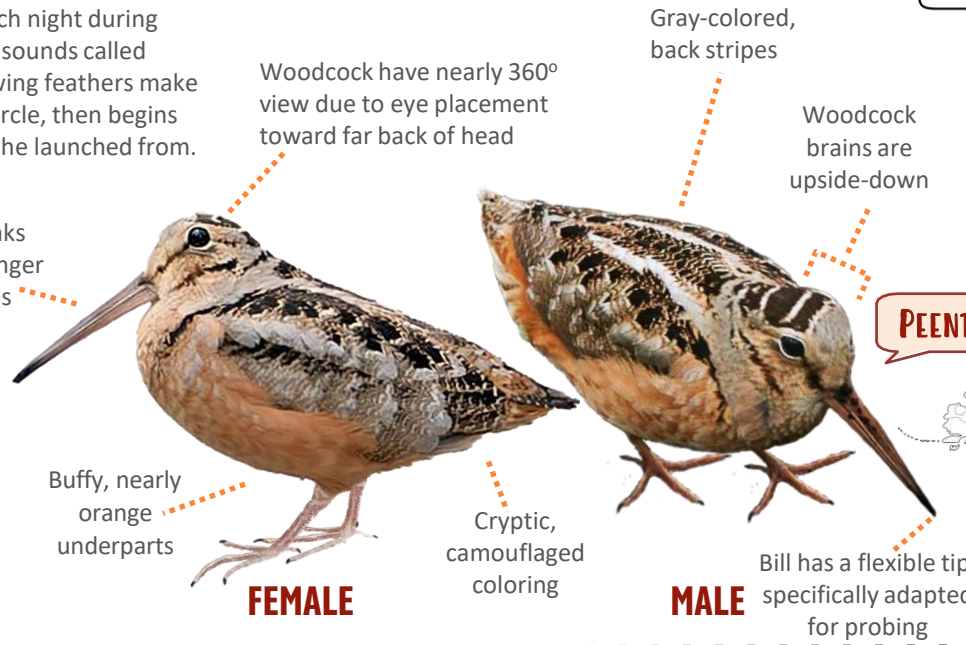
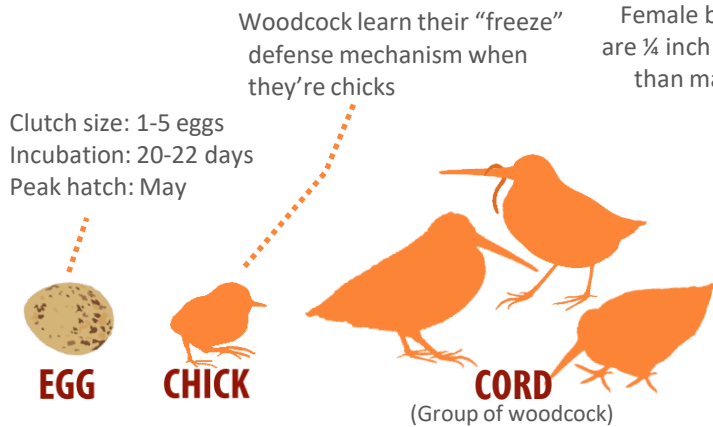


AMERICAN WOODCOCK

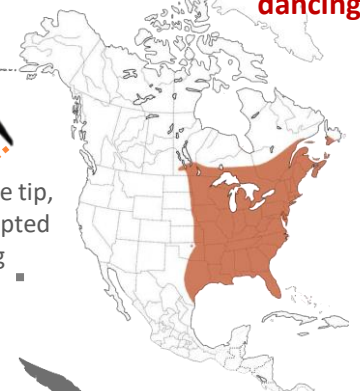
(Scolopax minor)



“Sky Dance” or “Song Flight” - The male courtship occurs at dusk each night during spring. The ritual begins with the male offering 1-2 minutes of buzzy sounds called “peenting” followed by him launching straight up into the air as his wing feathers make a twittering sound. At 100-300 feet in the air, he hovers, flying in a circle, then begins his downward, corkscrew spiral, landing in almost the exact location he launched from.



“WOBBLE DANCE”
Woodcock rock back and forth while walking and probing the earth for worms, which gives the appearance of dancing.

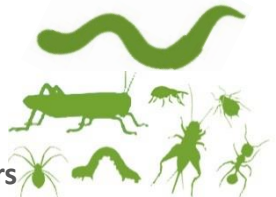


American Woodcock distribution

What makes good habitat? Having easy access to food, water, cover, and space to support growth and survival.

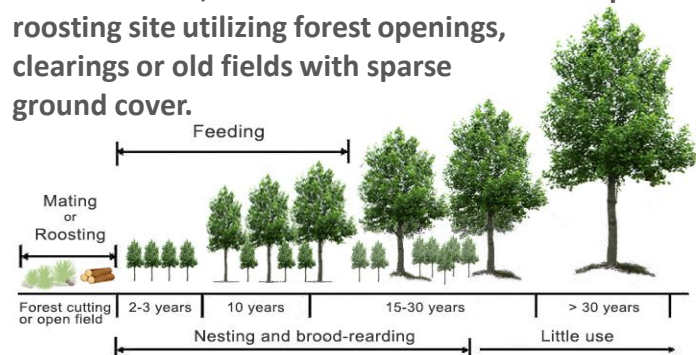
WOODCOCK FOOD IS IN THE SOIL

Woodcock are voracious eaters. Every day, they consume nearly their own body weight in their favorite delicacy – earthworms. Earthworms make up nearly 80% of the Woodcock’s diet with ants, flies, beetles, crickets, caterpillars, spiders and grasshoppers making up the remainder of their diet. Woodcock forage for food by probing the soil with their bill.



A TALE OF TWO HABITATS

Woodcock inhabit two distinct habitats each day. Their daytime feeding sites consist of young, dense, shrubby hardwood forest stands with rich, wet soils. At dusk, the birds commute to a separate roosting site utilizing forest openings, clearings or old fields with sparse ground cover.



175 ACRES AVERAGE HOME RANGE FOR BREEDING MALES

23 ALTERNATE NAMES INCLUDING: SWAMP QUAIL, MARSH PLOVER, BOG SUCKER, WOOD SNIPE, FOREST SNIPE AND TIMBERDOODLE

2-4 CORD SIZE WOODCOCK ARE GENERALLY SOLITARY PHYSICAL CONTACT AMONG INDIVIDUALS IS RARE

Pheasants Forever's mission is to conserve pheasants, quail, and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public access, education, and conservation advocacy.

For more information visit pheasantsforever.org

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE



Answer the questions below to discover which words to find in the Word Search.

- 1.) What are the two names for the woodcock's mating ritual?
- 2.) What is the term for a group of woodcock?
- 3.) What is the largest component of the woodcock's diet?
- 4.) The woodcock brain is unique because it's _____ ?
- 5.) Woodcock _____ the soil with their bill in search of food.
- 6.) What is the first sound a woodcock makes during his mating ritual?
- 7.) What is the defense mechanism woodcock learn as chicks?
- 8.) At dusk, woodcock _____ to their roosting site.
- 9.) What dance move did woodcock invent as a result of walking and probing the ground for food?
- 10.) What are two alternate names for American Woodcock?

Answers:

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| 1a.) _____ | 6.) _____ |
| 1b.) _____ | 7.) _____ |
| 2.) _____ | 8.) _____ |
| 3.) _____ | 9.) _____ |
| 4.) _____ | 10a.) _____ |
| 5.) _____ | 10b.) _____ |

E	I	Q	U	C	G	E	K	E	G	V	E	F	B	A	T
T	A	T	N	E	E	P	A	M	N	C	L	W	O	H	U
U	F	R	Y	K	V	H	N	E	N	Y	O	Q	G	E	P
M	M	Z	T	H	Y	S	B	A	E	O	M	I	S	L	S
M	F	M	D	H	A	U	D	Q	D	R	L	M	U	D	I
O	I	C	A	I	W	E	L	S	Y	F	F	E	C	O	D
C	A	H	W	R	L	O	N	D	G	K	I	C	K	O	E
C	O	R	D	B	S	I	R	N	U	P	R	N	E	D	D
V	E	B	B	A	P	H	O	M	R	O	Y	A	R	R	O
P	N	O	A	E	S	S	P	O	S	I	M	D	C	E	W
I	W	V	P	O	H	P	B	L	A	W	M	Y	Z	B	N
N	Y	B	N	W	R	E	Z	F	O	E	L	K	Y	M	R
S	W	A	M	P	Q	U	A	I	L	V	H	S	B	I	T
W	W	Z	T	H	S	C	P	R	K	M	E	J	T	T	O
P	W	Q	K	E	P	I	N	S	T	S	E	R	O	F	O
T	F	S	F	Z	I	Q	A	T	W	S	K	O	T	P	R

