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** Need help with the bird jargon? See Sparrow Flashcards #2. **

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WHITE-THROATED

Zonotrichia albicollis

White-striped morph has a white eyebrow, malar, and throat, with yellow above the lore. (Young birds look like tan morphs.) Gray bill, white wingbars, unstreaked breast/flanks, and long tail.

SONG

Melospiza melodia

White malar, big triangular throat stripe, and splotchy spot at the center of the streaked breast. Gray bill, faint wingbars, heavily streaked breast/flanks, and medium-length tail.

CHIPPING

Spizella passerina

Rusty-brown crown and a black eyeline that extends to the bill, looking like a pencil tucked behind an ear. Pinkish bill, white wingbars, unstreaked breast/flanks, and long notched tail.

SEASIDE

Ammodramus maritimus

Gray face with a yellow-orange lore and malar. (Young birds have a white malar.) Long gray bill, faint buff wingbars, oddly streaked orange and gray breast/flanks, and short tail.

WHITE-THROATED

Zonotrichia albicollis

Tan-striped morph is grayer overall, with the malar and throat divided by a faint gray throat stripe. Gray bill, white wingbars, variable fine or blurry streaking on breast/flanks, and long tail.

SWAMP

Melospiza georgiana

Facial markings look blurry. Note the rusty-red wings and tail, and the warm brown flanks. Gray bill, no wingbars, faint/blurry streaking on breast/flanks, and medium-length tail.

CLAY-COLORED

Spizella pallida

Pale face with an eyering, tan lore, white malar, and brown throat stripe. Looks very cute. Grayish-pink bill, buff wingbars, unstreaked tan breast/flanks, and long notched tail.

LE CONTE'S

Ammodramus leconteii

Bright buffy eyebrow and unbordered malar, with lighter buff on breast/flanks. Dart-like eyeline above the gray cheek. Gray bill, no wingbars, boldly streaked flanks, and short tail.

WHITE-CROWNED

Zonotrichia leucophrys

Black-and-white “bike helmet” on an otherwise gray head. (Young birds have brown and gray stripes.) Pinkish bill, white wingbars, unstreaked breast/flanks, and long tail.

LINCOLN'S

Melospiza lincolni

Buff malar, breast, and flanks, and lots of fine-line streaking. Crown feathers are often raised. Gray bill, faint buff wingbars, neatly streaked breast/flanks, and medium-length tail.

FIELD

Spizella pusilla

Plain face and white eyering make the pink bill pop. Eyeline/cheek/breast/flanks can be all gray or orangey. Pink bill, white wingbars, unstreaked breast/flanks, and long notched tail.

NELSON'S

Ammodramus nelsoni

Buff to orange eyebrow and malar on a relatively plain face. Light buff/orange on streaked breast/flanks. Gray bill, no wingbars, faintly streaked breast/flanks, and short tail.

HARRIS'S

Zonotrichia querula

Black crown, lore, throat, and bib. (Young birds have less black on the crown and a mostly white throat.) Big pink bill, white wingbars, streaked brown flanks, and long tail.

SAVANNAH

Passerculus sandwichensis

White eyering, brown cheek framed by an eyeline and mustache, and some yellow on the eyebrow. Two-tone bill, faint buff wingbars, neatly streaked breast/flanks, and short tail.

VESPER

Pooecetes gramineus

Facial markings seem fuzzy, except for the bold white eyering and malar. Two-tone bill, buffy wingbars, finely streaked breast/flanks, and medium-length tail with white outer feathers.

GRASSHOPPER

Ammodramus savannarum

Plain face, with a white eyering, a hint of orange above the lore, and small dark marks at the back of the cheek. Gray bill, faint buff wingbars, unstreaked breast/flanks, and short tail.

FOX

Passerella iliaca

Covered with rusty-red streaks painted on with far too much enthusiasm. Definitely not an LBJ. Two-tone bill, faint wingbars, super-streaked breast/flanks, and medium-length tail.

LARK

Chondestes grammacus

Unusually bold facial markings and a dark spot on the breast. (Young birds are less colorful.) Gray bill, buff wingbars, unstreaked breast/flanks, and long tail with white outer feathers.

HOUSE (male)

Passer domesticus

Gray crown, black lore, and rusty area behind the eye and above the gray cheek. Throat/bib grows blacker as spring arrives and feather tips wear. Hangs out anywhere there's food.

HOUSE (female)

Passer domesticus

Pale eyebrow between the darker crown and fuzzy eyeline. Two-tone bill, faint wingbars, unstreaked breast/flanks, and short tail. Non-native and not related to our other sparrows.