

# Looking for Chickadees

## Keep your eyes peeled!

Black-capped Chickadees are about the same size as a navel orange. They are typically between 12–15 cm from beak to tail-tip.

Look for the “black cap” on their head.

## Chickadee Chirping

Chickadees have many calls. Keep an ear out for these:

### Chick-a-dee-dee

This is the one most people know. Chickadees use it to greet each other and alert others about food and danger. The more ‘dee’s, the more urgent the call.

### Cheese-burger

This high, whistled song is used by males to attract mates, or by both sexes to communicate about movements and feeding the young.

### Gargle Call

This rapid gargle is territorial and used to tell others who is in charge.

### High ‘Zee’ Call

This call is used to warn others that there is a predator nearby.



## Actual Size



**Black-capped Chickadee**  
*Poecile atricapillus*

### White-breasted Nuthatch

*Sitta carolinensis*



## Feathered Friends

From October to March, chickadees travel in flocks of up to 12 birds. During warmer months, they travel in breeding pairs.

Chickadees often form mixed-species flocks with other birds. When chickadees arrive, White-breasted Nuthatches usually follow soon after.