



LMT Bird Town BOTM November 2025 **The black-capped chickadee**

Chickadees are considered to be a “cute” bird! And they love feeders with suet, sunflowers and peanuts. Here are some fascinating facts about the black-capped chickadee:

- The Black-capped Chickadee hides seeds and other food items to eat later. Each item is placed in a different spot and the chickadee can remember thousands of hiding places.
 - Every autumn Black-capped Chickadees allow brain neurons containing old information to die, replacing them with new neurons so they can adapt to changes in their social flocks and environment.
 - Even when temperatures are far below zero, chickadees virtually always sleep in their own individual cavities. They go into regulated hypothermia. In rotten wood, they can excavate nesting and roosting holes entirely on their own.
 - Chickadee calls are complex and language-like, communicating information on identity and recognition of other flocks as well as predator alarms and contact calls.
 - Winter flocks with chickadees serving as the nucleus contain mated chickadee pairs and nonbreeders, but generally not the offspring of the adult pairs within that flock.
- Other species that associate with chickadee flocks include nuthatches, woodpeckers,