

10 – Wood Ducks One Native Life

NAME _____

(1) What *colours* of birds are there on the lake?

(2) Match the name with the bird in the photo. (Start with the ones you know, then use Google to identify the rest.)

A. Grey Heron

D. Cormorant

G. Swallow

B. Grebe

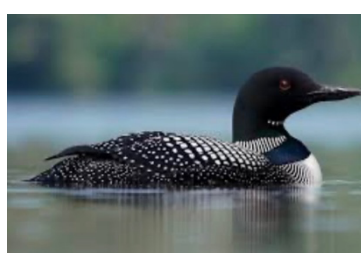
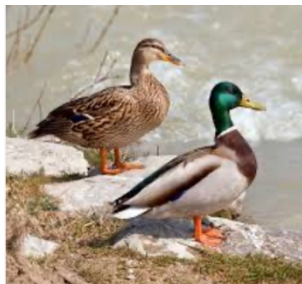
E. Mallard Duck

H. Canada Goose

C. Blue Jay

F. Loon

I. Red-Winged Blackbird



10 – Wood Ducks

© Trevor Bearance (2025)

One Native Life

NAME _____

(3) The feeling that the land at this time of the year gives him is like a _____ burning in him.

(4) Richard was taken from his parents and adopted “down South” into a White family. The father was a preacher and a policeman. They moved a lot. He would make friends only to move away and lose them. He ached for _____, something that would last and prove stable.

(5) He says he discovered a “maple bush” in the back forty of the 300 acres of farmland they lived on. Do you think he means ONE BUSH was a maple, or that the “ENTIRE “BLUFF” (as I would call it) was made up of maple trees? (Circle what you think he means.) “Bush” has different meanings and usages. To me “bush” means either one low leafy plant or a large wilderness area.

(6) Where did Richard feel “truly alive and free”? _____

_____.

(7) Match the animal with their young:

TYPE of ANIMAL	OFFSPRING
Fox	
Cattle	
Woodchuck	
Deer	
Wood Ducks	

10 – Wood Ducks
One Native Life

© Trevor Bearance (2025)

NAME _____

(7) The colors of the male wood duck: _____, _____,
_____, _____, **and** _____.

(8) The colors of the female wood duck: mostly _____, **with**
some _____ **at her throat, and a tinge of** _____ **to her wings.**

(8) In nature, why do you think males of a species are bigger
and more spectacularly colored, while the females tend to be
smaller and dully colored? _____

_____.

(9) How many eggs did the female lay? _____.

(10) Richard said that, when spending days with those birds, he
“came to fully occupy the space I was in for the very first time
in my life. There was no need for _____ **and** _____,
no need of _____, **no need for anything but**

_____.”

**10 – Wood Ducks
One Native Life**

NAME _____

(11) When the wood duck chicks swam away, did Richard feel the same sense of loss he had felt moving and losing friends?

YES or NO. (Circle)

(12) Losses are inevitable in life. But Richard learned at eleven years of age that good things can remain with us as others leave us. “Some things _____ the _____ and _____ of our living.”

(13) Richard found _____ in that tree above the nest and it never left me. Later, in the right time and place, when he was ready, he “emerged as a _____, as pure and natural as breathing.”