



OBSERVING PIGEONS

GET READY

Pigeons (or rock doves) are found all over the world. Though common, they are still very interesting. One interesting thing about pigeons is how different they can look from each other. The different colors you see are called color morphs.

CAREER CONNECTION

A scientist that studies birds is an **ornithologist**.

WHAT YOU NEED

Pigeons are not shy which makes them easy to observe. Helpful tools include:

- * Notebook & Pen
- * Field Guide

We've included a special field guide to help you identify some common color morphs.



TRY THIS:

It's easy to study the unique colors of pigeons. All you need is to locate a place where they gather and a guide to common color morphs.

Step 1: Find a Place to Observe

This can be from a balcony, at a park, or near an urban location like near a store. You can even try and spot pigeons looking out a window while inside your home.

Step 2: Sit Quietly and Look Carefully

Pigeons are not shy which makes them easy to observe. The more quietly you sit the closer they may come to you. Observe carefully to notice the differences in their color patterns.

Step 3: Identify the Color Morph

Use the guide provided to identify the different color morphs you encounter. Which is the most common?



WHAT YOU DISCOVERED:

Some color morphs are more common than others. You are more likely to see blue bar color morphs than checker or pied color morphs. Scientists are still learning why some are more common than others. For more information, you can explore this website: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Rock_Pigeon/id



EXPLORE FURTHER:

Observe pigeons in several different locations. Do you see a difference in which color morph is most common?



OBSERVING PIGEONS

Observing Pigeons Common Color Morphs



Other



Checker



White



Pied



Spread



Blue Bar