



Catbirds live and nest in shrubbery near houses, in gardens and orchards. They feed on berries, fruits, and insects. The Catbird is the only large dark-gray bird with a chestnut patch at the base of its tail. Females and young look like the males.

The Catbirds' call is like a kitten's Meeow. They also imitate the songs of their bird neighbors-and often do as good a job. Catbirds come north in spring. In summer they nest throughout the East and Midwest. They spend the winter along the Gulf coast, in Florida, and in Central America.

The Catbird's nest is a large, uneven mass of twigs, leaves, and stems, lined with fine shreds of bark and rootlets. The female lays four to six eggs-greenish-blue. Catbirds usually raise two broods in a season.