



Eastern Towhee

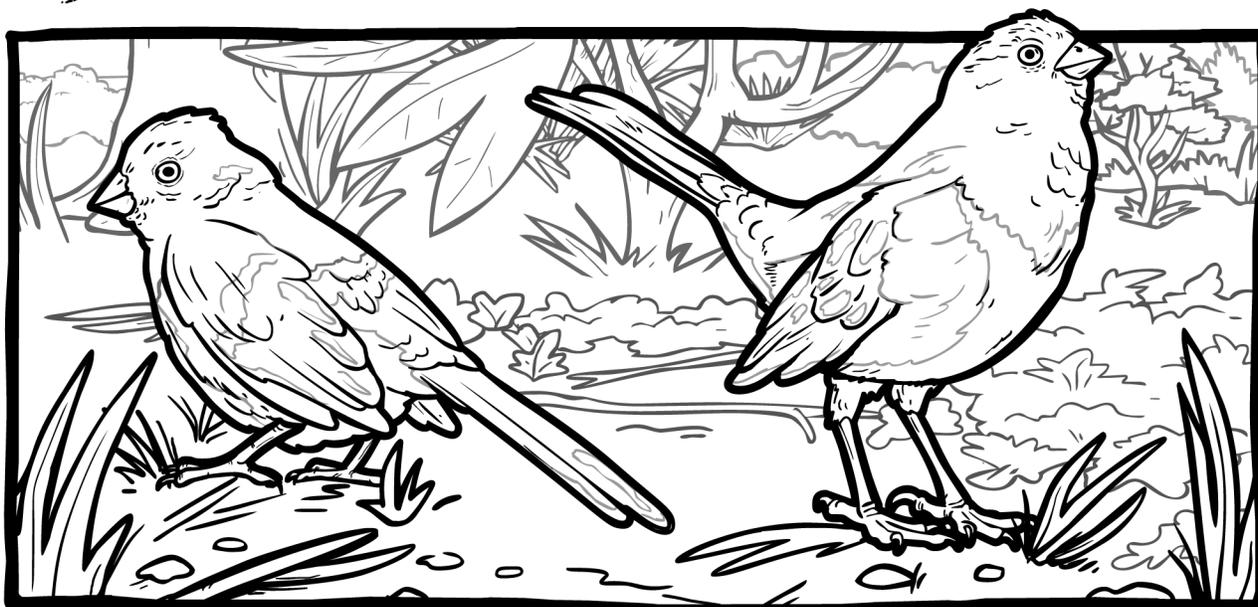
Eastern Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*)

Instant ID

- A sparrow with a round body and long tail
- Males have a black head and back, white belly and reddish-brown sides
- Females have brown heads and backs
- Thick, triangular beak

Native Niches

- Found in brush, open woods, scrubby backyards and along forest edges
- Leaves under dense shrubs are important for their feeding habits
- Located in eastern North America, especially in the Southeast



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Favorite Foods

- Eat a wide variety of food, including seeds, fruit, insects and spiders
- Feed on insects more while raising young

Critter Characteristics

- Scratch at leaves and hop backwards when foraging
- Often flash their white tail to communicate
- Named after their *chewink* call
- Can live up to 12 years

Population Protection

- Population has been cut in half since 1966
- Limit the use of pesticides, they can make the birds sick