

Pre-Visit

Activity 2 Resource

Local birds



A: Blue Rock Thrush

RELATED FACTS

- Il-Merill, also known as 'Blue Rock Thrush', is the national bird of the Maltese islands.
- Males have a black feathered body, and blue feathered wings.
- The females have dark brown feathers.
- They feed on worms, grasshoppers, lizards, and skinks.
- They live near sea cliffs but sometimes they like visiting old Maltese houses too.



B: Sparrow



RELATED FACTS

- The Sparrow, known as I-Ghasfur tal-Bejt, is a small bird with a full chest and a large rounded head.
- Males have brown, grey, and black feathers.
- Females have light brown feathers.
- You will find them in gardens filled with trees and shrubs. Sometimes also in fields in the countryside.
- They are not too picky with their food. In fact we call them omnivores. They eat plants/seeds and also animals like tiny lizards.



C: Robin



RELATED FACTS

- In Maltese, the Robin is called Pitirross.
- It is a 14cm bird, known for its red or orange chest in males.
- A female robin has black and brown feathers.
- Robins migrate to Malta during the winter time and that is when you will spot them in the countryside or near houses on trees and shrubs. Try and spot them during your Christmas Holidays.



D: Duck

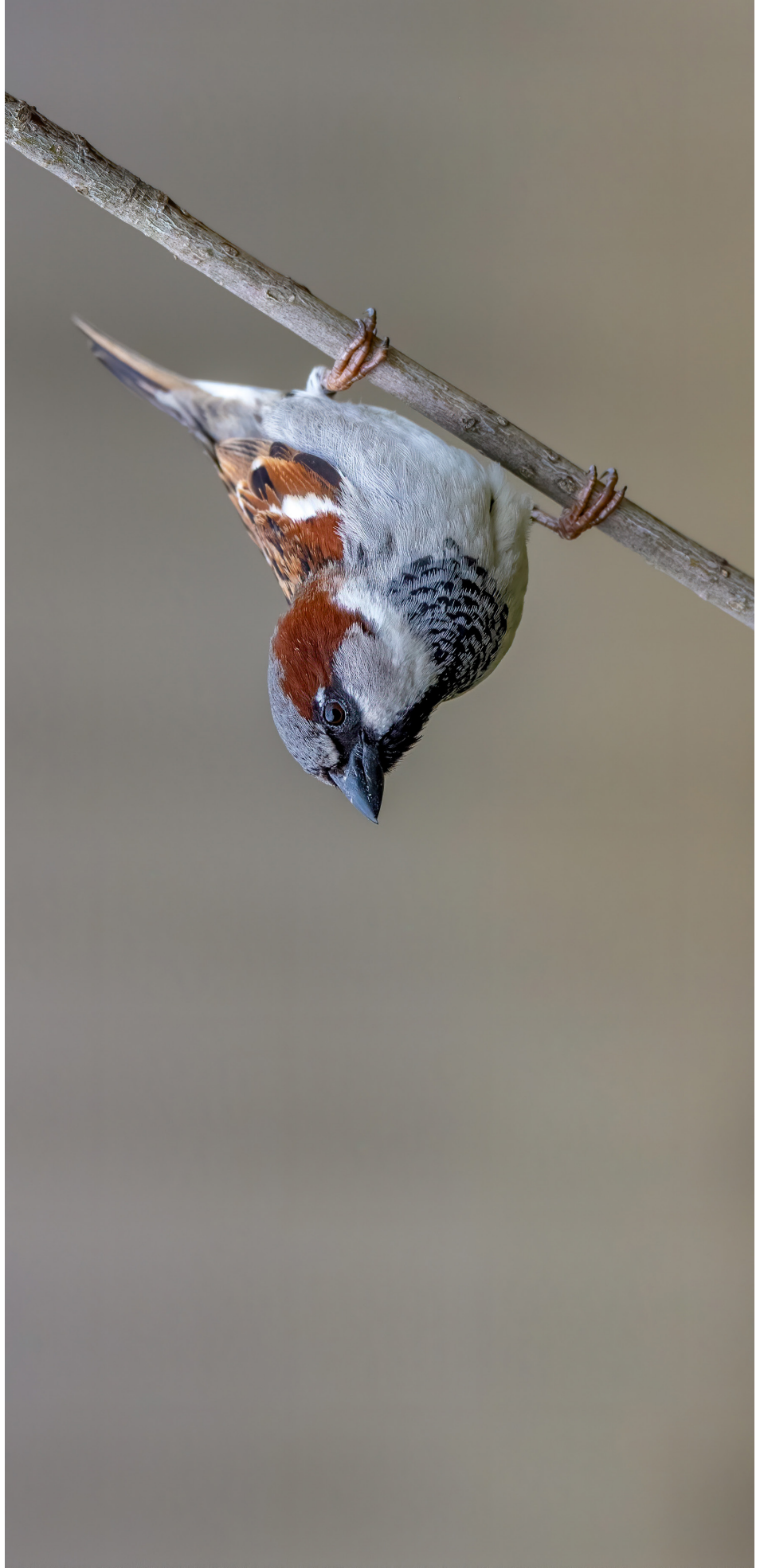


RELATED FACTS

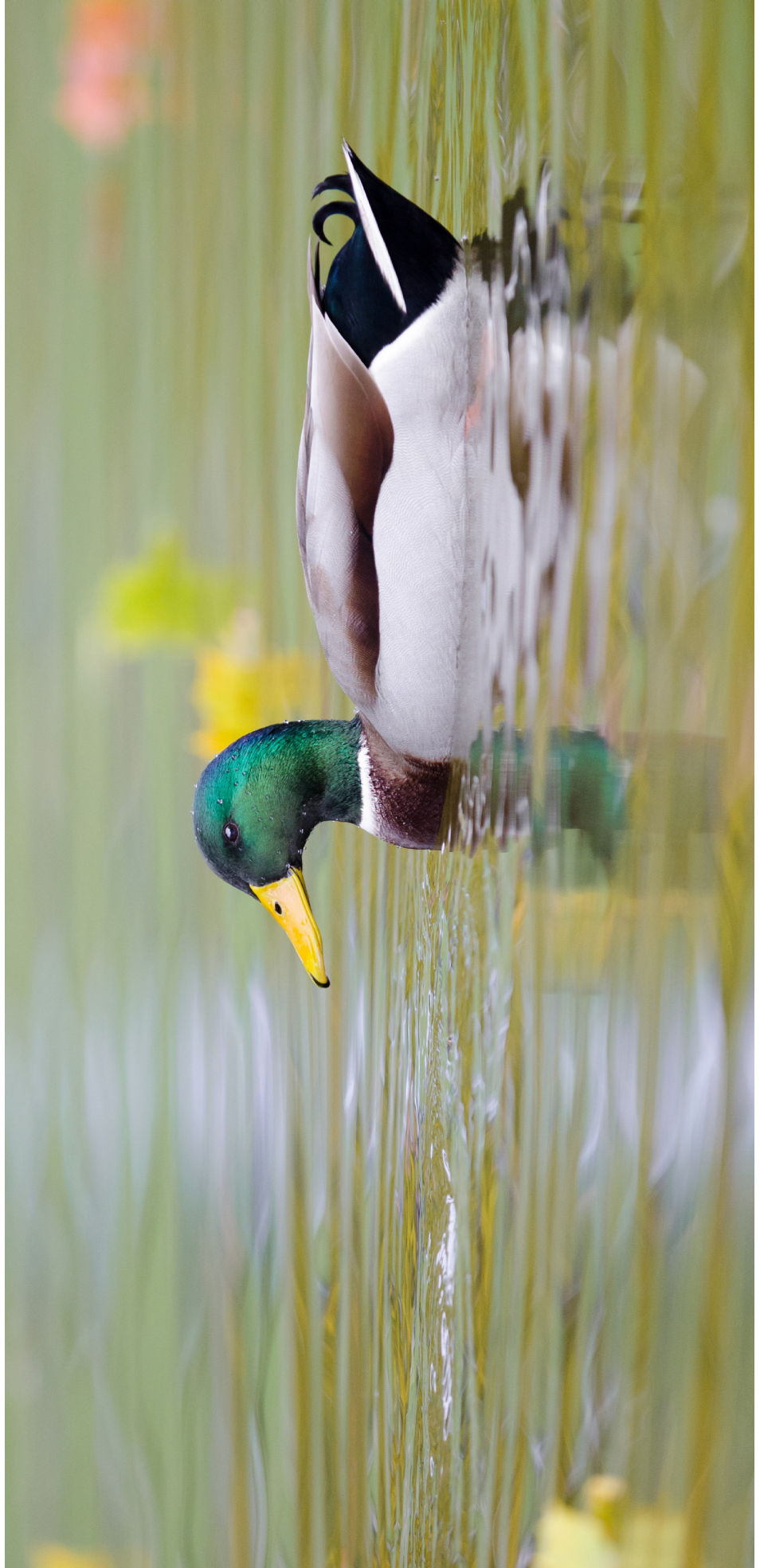
- The duck has waterproof feathers so that when it dips into the water for food, it is able to fly quickly.
- They love to eat grasses, fish, and insects.
- Ducks have 2 webbed feet.
- This duck is known for its multi coloured feathers. Its head is green, brown neck, with light grey chest, and darker grey on their back. With a blue strip.
- What other ducks have you spotted? What coloured feathers do they have?











Observe and compare!



**Which bird do you think
is the biggest?**

**Can you name all the
colours that you have seen on
their feathers?**

**Which one has the
smallest beak?**

**Which one has the
largest beak?**

**What else did you notice
about the birds?**

A closer look at these animals



HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED THAT...

- Flying birds that also live in the sea, such as ducks, have different shaped feet. This is because they must swim to catch food.
- The flipper-looking feet help them go faster.



- Look closely at the beak of this sparrow. What is it chewing on?
- Can you name the colours of its head?

- Take a closer look at these beautiful feathers.
- Which bird do you think that these feathers belong to?





