

# Specimen Spotlight: Indigo Bunting



- Only male Indigo Buntings have the bright blue coloring; females are brown.
- This bird eats insects, seeds, buds, and berries.
- Their populations are large and stable, so they are not endangered.
- Indigo Buntings can be seen in Chicago during Spring and Fall migration. They will also nest in the area.

The Field Museum has over 1000 specimens of this brilliant blue bird. Indigo Buntings are one of many bird species collected by volunteers who look for birds on the ground that flew into windows in Chicago. By recording these window strikes as preserved specimens, the museum can inform policy makers, property managers, and designers about the hazards migratory birds face so we can make the environment safer for them.



Museum researchers utilize birds in our collection to understand more about migration patterns, bird populations, animal health, and ultimately the health of the environment.



Photos by Anna Villanyi

# Color your own Indigo Bunting



Madison Romesburg