

Module 13: Birds in the Urban Landscape

Urban EcoLab

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Hummingbird Fun Fact Cards

Center for Urban Resilience

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A: 50 - 200 bps or 3,000 – 12,000 beats per minute!



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Q: How fast do the wings of a hummingbird beat per second?



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A: Rufous hummingbird



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Q: What species of hummingbird has been documented flying over the Pacific Ocean?



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A: Torpor







Q: What is it called when hummingbirds lower their body temperature at night, thereby lowering their metabolism to conserve energy?







A: Nectar, insects, and small spiders.







Q: What do hummingbirds eat?









A: Only in the Americas, which are in the Western Hemisphere.







Q: Where are hummingbirds found in the World?







A: They help pollinate flowers.



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Q: What is an important ecosystem service that hummingbirds provide?





A: Hummingbirds are the only bird that can hover and fly backwards and upside down!









Q: What is something very special about how hummingbirds fly?







A: On average, 500-600 bpm!

(In comparison, the average human's heartbeat is 60-100 bpm.)



Photo by Richard Beban





Q: How fast does a hummingbird's heart beat per minute?



Photo by Richard Beban







Female Anna's-www.google.com

Male Anna's-Photo by Don Sterba



Female Allen's-Photo by Marilyn Bernstein Male Allen's-Photo by Richard Beban

A. Anna's and Allen's.





Q: What are the two most common hummingbird species we see on the LMU campus?

Hummingbirds at the Gottlieb Native Garden





A: Two.









Q: How many eggs does a hummingbird lay on average?







A: Yes! They prefer very shallow, moving water, or a light spray mist.



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Q: Do hummingbirds need water to drink and bathe?







A: No. This discourages insects from feeding from them too!







Q: Do the tubular flowers that hummingbirds get nectar from have a scent or fragrance?







A: Every 15 minutes!



Hummingbirds at the Gottlieb Native Garden





Q: How often do hummingbirds have to feed?



Hummingbirds at the Gottlieb Native Garden





A: 1000!







Q: On average, how many flower blossoms might a hummingbird feed from each day?







A: Yes! And, you can put out nesting material and feeders to keep them coming back!







Q: Will hummingbirds that migrate return to the same feeding and nesting locations each year?







A: Yes. So, never remove a nest from a tree or bush, because it could be reused by the same or a different hummingbird.







Q: Will hummingbirds reuse the same nest?







A: No.
Hummingbirds are
not cavity nesters, so
they will never nest in
a bird house or
roosting box.







Q: Will hummingbirds nest or roost in bird houses?







A: No. For example, there is a sub-species of Allen's hummingbirds in California that stay year-round.







Q: Do all hummingbirds migrate?







A: Cats, larger birds, snakes, squirrels, praying mantids, and others.







Q: What are some predators of hummingbirds?







A: Yes, 34 species are endangered.







Q: Of the 342 hummingbird species, are any endangered?





