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Module 10: Garden Ecology

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



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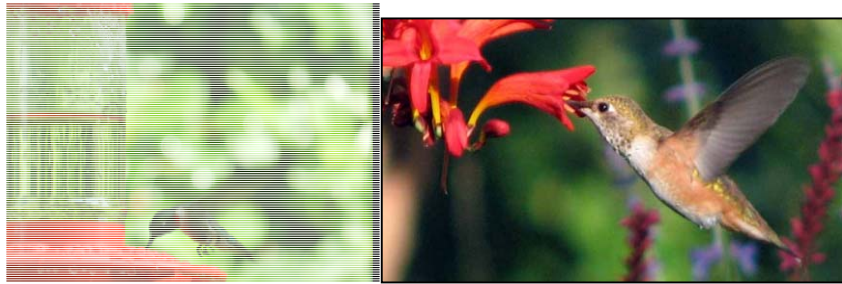
Q: What is it called when hummingbirds lower their body temperature at night, thereby lowering their metabolism to conserve energy?



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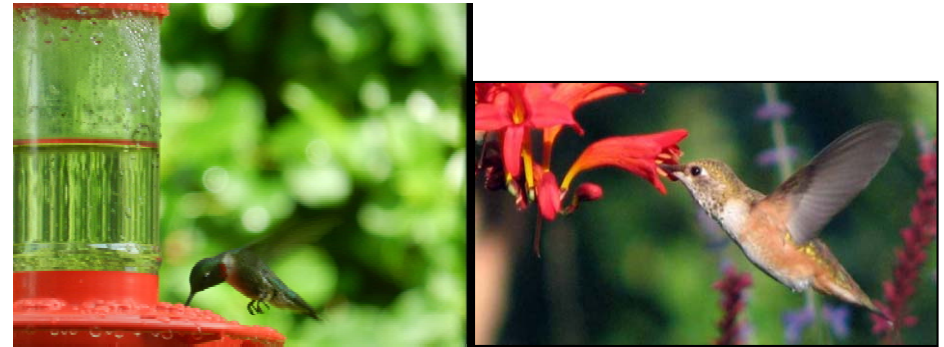
A: Nectar,
insects, and
small spiders.



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Q: What do
hummingbirds
eat?



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



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Q: Where are hummingbirds found in the World?



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A: They help pollinate flowers.



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

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



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



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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.



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



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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?



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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

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Q: How often do hummingbirds have to feed?



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A: 1000!



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



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



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



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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.



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Q: Will
hummingbirds
nest or roost in
bird houses?



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



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Q: Do all hummingbirds migrate?



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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?



