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INSIDE
Dear Adults

Have Fun This Fall!

The fall can be a busy time with summer ending and the school year winding back up again. During these months, kids can be mentally tired. Getting out into nature is a great way to calm and refresh the mind for kids (and for adults too)! To help you out, we have planned a few special Rookery events to give you an excuse to get back outside, take a mental break, and enjoy nature!

Mark your calendars for the following scheduled events:

• Fledglings and Friends Story Hour: Owls on Wednesday, Sept. 20th at 10:30am
• Birding at the Union Bay Natural Area on Saturday, Oct. 2nd at 2:00pm

Visit our Facebook page for more events and information:

https://www.facebook.com/seattleaudubon/

We are looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

*Rookery members and families only, RSVP at the number below.

For more information, visit www.seattleaudubon.org or call: 206-523-4483

Puzzles and Games

Help the Bird Migrate South!
Let’s Go Birding!

Fall is also an eventful time for many birds! They don’t have to go to school – instead, they get a makeover!

Breeding Plumage
As many male birds get ready for mating season, their appearance can change dramatically. These fabulous new brightly colored feathers are called breeding plumage. These changes only occur in male birds.

Male Wood Duck – Non-Breeding Plumage

Male Wood Duck – Breeding Plumage

See how many colorful birds you can find this season!

Unscramble the words and then put them into their place!

1. LAFL 1. __________
2. HTSUO 2. __________
3. TLETAES 3. __________
4. GROAFE 4. __________
5. EMUPLAG 5. __________
6. HDTCRRBIAWE 6. __________

(1)______ is the beginning of a season of change for many birds. For some, they face countless challenges while flying hundreds of miles (2)_______ to find food. Others stay in (3)_______ year-round and have learned to (4)_______ as the weather starts to get cold. Some birds change into breeding (5)_______ to begin finding a mate, while others keep the same mate from year to year. Overall, fall is an exciting time – both to be a bird and a (6)____________!
Today’s Date: _______________  Weather: _______________
Location: _________________________________

**My Observations**

The birds I saw today:

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Other organisms I saw today:

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

The most interesting thing I found: _______________________
Where I saw it: _______________________________________
What it was doing: _____________________________________

Here’s sketch of it:

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**Spotlight on Hummingbirds**

There are so many unique things about hummingbirds!

**Fun Fact # 1**
Hummingbird tongues are lined with hairs called lamellae which help them to drink nectar!

**Fun Fact # 2**
There are 325 unique hummingbird species in the world and only 8 of them live in the United States!

**Fun Fact # 3**
Hummingbird wings beat very fast when they hover. Anywhere from 720 to 5400 beats per minute!

**Fun Fact # 4**
Despite their small size, hummingbirds are very aggressive and territorial!

**Fun Fact # 5**
Hummingbirds have no sense of smell, but have very good eyesight!

Many birds will migrate south starting in the fall, but you can still keep an eye out for Anna’s Hummingbirds all winter long!
Spotlight on Hummingbirds

Anna’s Hummingbird

Scientific Name
Calpyte anna

General Info
Anna’s Hummingbirds are small and brightly colored birds. They are very common all year-round in Seattle and weigh no more than a nickel!

Habitat and Diet
Anna’s hummingbirds are found all over Seattle in many kinds of habitats. You can see them in your backyard garden and the open woods. They love to hover near flowers to drink nectar and perch on feeders for sugar-water. Many people do not know that they also love to eat tiny insects and spiders.

Nesting
Anna’s hummingbirds nest on tree branches in compact cups made of plant material and spider webs. During nesting season males will fly high and then dive down creating an explosive popping sound. Females will lay two eggs per nest and care for the young without the help of the males.

Behavior
Anna’s Hummingbirds fly so fast that they are often hard to see in midair. They are also the only birds that can fly backwards. When they are not flying. They often sit up in a tree and sing their high-pitched song.

My Birding Journal
You can use this space to take notes or sketch what you saw!