



of
William Heise
County Park

**THE
KIDS
of**
William Heise County Park

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Acorn Woodpecker

The Acorn Woodpecker is a brown-black color with a white forehead, throat, belly and rump. There are green feathers on the small of their backs and their eyes are white.

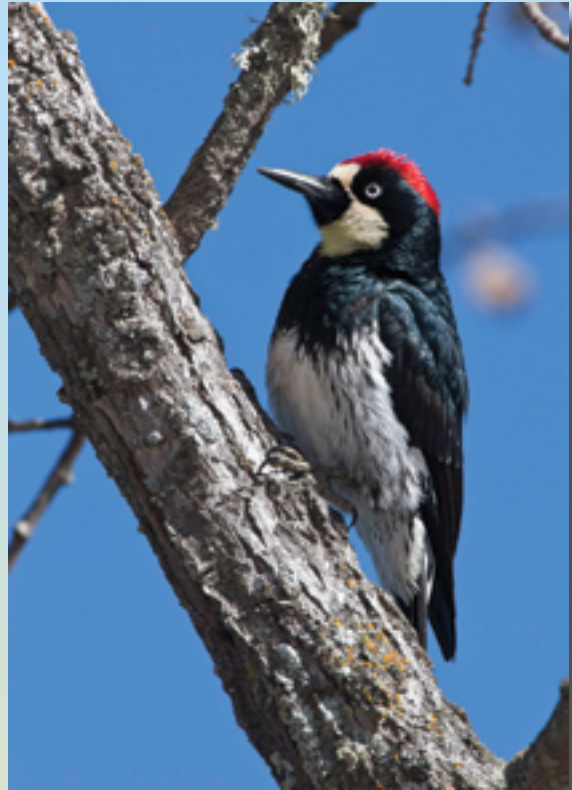
Adult males can be identified by the red cap starting at the forehead. The white neck, throat and forehead patches are the Acorn Woodpecker's distinctive identifiers.

When taking flight, they take a few flaps of their wings and drop about a foot. During flight, one can see white circles on their wings.

True to their name, this Woodpecker's main source of nourishment is acorns.

Acorn woodpeckers have a unique call that almost sounds like they are laughing.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acorn_Woodpecker



American Crow



The American Crow is common throughout the United States. This all-black bird features iridescent feathers and averages 16 – 20 inches in length, 40% of which is its tail.

Crows also have the ability to produce a wide array of sounds and can even mimic other animals.

Each wing is about 11–14 inches long and their wingspan is an impressive 33-39 inches. The crow's bill length is about two inches and is smaller and more curved than the raven. Male crows tend to be larger than females.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Crow

American Robin

The American Robin can be identified by its reddish-orange breast. Found throughout the United States, the American Robin lives year-round in San Diego County.

The Robin has a brown back and its head varies from jet black to gray. The throat is white with black streaks, and the belly and undertail coverts are white.

Its bill is mainly yellow with a dark tip, which becomes more extensive in winter. The legs and feet are brown. Robins are about 10–11 inches long and have a wingspan of 12 – 16 inches). Its average weight is 2.7 ounces.

The female tends to be less vibrant than the male. They have a brown tint to the head, brown upper parts and less bright underparts. However, their gender cannot be safely identified on plumage alone.



Juvenile robins are paler in color than adult males, have dark spots on their breasts and whitish wing coverts. Though not easily distinguishable from adults, first-year birds tend to be duller and a small percentage retains juvenile wing coverts or other feathers.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Robin

Ash Throated Flycatcher



The Ash-Throated Flycatcher, a short distance migratory bird, can be found from the western United States to central Mexico. It can be found in desert scrub, forests and brushy pastures.

They feed on insects and catch their prey on the ground or in foliage.

The birds feature olive brown upper parts with a dark head and short crest. Their breasts are gray with pale yellow bellies. Their brown tail feathers and wings have rufous outer webs with two dull wing bars.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ash-throated_Flycatcher

Band-Tailed Pigeon

The Band-Tail Pigeon is found in altitudes above 3,000 feet and can be found in oak and pine oak forests. Averaging 13 – 16 inches in length and weighing up to 18 ounces, they are the biggest pigeons in North America.

Band-Tail Pigeons have gray plumage and are sometimes darker above. The head and underparts have a faint pink cast, especially in the adult male. Their bellies are nearly



white and the distal half of the tail is also pale.

Good identification marks for Band-Tail Pigeons are their yellow bill and feet. Adults have green iridescence on the back of the neck while juvenile birds have white feather edges above, giving a scaly appearance.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Band-tailed_Pigeon

Black-Throated Gray Warbler

The Black-throated Gray Warbler is common in forest habitats and ranges from Canada to Mexico. It has soft, mostly black, grey, and white plumage and features a distinctive small yellow spot between its eye and bill.

Males and females have a slight difference. Both have gray upper parts with black streaks, and white under parts with black streaks on the flanks. Adult males have a striped head, black crown and white stripe below the eye. They also have a white stripe around the chin and above the eye. Adult female have a dingy plumage on the head, with a white throat and dark gray cheeks.

Black-throated Gray Warblers are typically five inches long and weigh less than an ounce. They are usually approachable, and can easily be observed while foraging. They are associated with pinyon pines, junipers and oaks.



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black-throated_Gray_Warbler

Chipping Sparrow

Common throughout North America, Chipping Sparrows are mostly gray with an orange-rust color on its head. Adults in alternate (breeding) plumage have a persimmon-red cap, a nearly white supercilium, and a black trans-ocular line.

Adults in basic (non-breeding) plumage are less prominently marked, with a brownish cap, a dusky eyebrow, and a dark eye-line.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chipping_Sparrow



Common Raven

The Common Raven, also known as a Northern Raven, is found throughout the northern hemisphere. It is often confused with its cousin, the American Crow.

The Common Raven differs from crows by having a larger and heavier, black beak. They are shaggy around the throat and feature a long, graduated, wedge-shaped tail.



Featuring a bill that is large and slightly curved, the raven has mostly black iridescent plumage and a dark brown iris. Its throat feathers are elongated and pointed with the base of its neck feathers a pale brownish-grey. The plumage of a juvenile raven is similar but is duller with a blue-grey iris.

Mature ravens range between 22 to 30 inches in length with a wingspan range of 40 to 59 inches. Weighing from 1.5 to 4.4 pounds, they are one of the heaviest passerine birds.

Common Ravens have a distinctive, deep, resonant call, which to experienced bird watcher, is unique from any other corvid. They have a very wide and complex vocabulary and some calls are of an almost musical nature.

In flight, the Raven's feathers produce a creaking sound that has been likened to the rustle of silk.

Common Ravens are extremely opportunistic in finding food, often feeding on insects, grains, fruit, small animals, and food waste.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_Raven

Dark-Eyed Junco



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dark-eyed_Junco

The best-known species of juncos, these birds live year-round in San Diego County. The adults usually have gray heads, necks, and breasts but can have a confusing amount of variation in plumage details. Their white outer tail feathers flash distinctively in flight and while hopping on the ground. Their bills are usually a pale pinkish color.

Males tend to have darker, more conspicuous markings than the females. The bird's average size is 5 – 6.5 inches in length.

Hammond's Flycatcher

Hammond's Flycatcher is aptly named, as they feed primarily on insects. Adults have grey-olive upper parts, a darker color on the wings and tail and white underparts. They have a conspicuous white eye ring, a small bill and a short tail.

Their breasts are washed with grey and the sides of their bellies are yellow. Many species of flycatchers look closely alike. The best way to distinguish each species is by voice, breeding habitat and/or range.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hammond's_Flycatcher



Mountain Chickadee



Mountain Chickadees are commonly found in mountainous regions of the United States. They feature a black cap on their head and unique white eyebrows.

Their backs and flanks are gray and they have a short black bill. Typical birds are five-to-six inches in length with a wingspan of about eight inches.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mountain_Chickadee

Mountain Bluebird

The Mountain Bluebird lives in open rangelands and meadows above 5,000 feet in elevation. This medium-sized bird weighs about an ounce and is six to eight inches long.

Male bluebirds have thin bills and are bright turquoise-blue with a lighter color underneath. Females have light blue wings and tail with a grey breast, crown and back. During fall plumage, the female's throat and breast are tinged with red-orange.



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mountain_Bluebird

Northern Flicker



The Northern Flicker is a member of the woodpecker family. Unlike other woodpeckers, the Northern Flicker feeds on the ground. Ants make up 45% of their diet.

Males can be identified by a black or red moustached stripe at the base of the beak. The tail is dark on top, transitioning to a white rump which is conspicuous in flight.

They measure approximately 12.5 inches in length with a wingspan of 17 to 20 inches. A necklace-like black patch occupies the upper breast, while the lower breast and belly are beige with black spots.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Flicker

Nuttall's Woodpecker

Nuttall's Woodpecker was named after naturalist Thomas Nuttall. They are six-to-seven inches in length and are primarily black and white. They feature a barred pattern across their back and wings. Its white breast is also speckled with black on the flanks and rump. Males have a red patch on the back of its head.



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuttall's_Woodpecker

Oak Titmouse

The Oak Titmouse lives year-round in warm, dry, intact oak or oak-pine woodlands from Oregon to Mexico. The loss of natural cavities for this sedentary species is affecting populations.

The birds build their nest in a woodpecker hole, natural cavity, or a nest box. Females lay between three-to-nine eggs during the breeding season, which runs from March to July.

The young are altricial, and are tended by both parents in the nest for 16–21 days. Parents continue to tend to young for another three to four weeks after they leave the nest.

The Oak Titmouse and Juniper Titmouse were once considered the same species, but were separated in 1996. They appear identical, but differ in voice as well as range. In general, the bird is brown-tinged with



a plain face and short crest, and measures 5.75 inches in length.

The Oak Titmouse gives a repeated series of three to seven syllables, each comprised of one low and one high note, while the Juniper Titmouse song consists of a series of rapid syllables on the same note.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oak_Titmouse

Spotted Towhee

The Spotted Towhee is a member of the sparrow family and is now considered a separate species from the Eastern Towhee.

Adults have red eyes, rufous sides, a white belly and a long dark tail. They have white spots on their back and white wing bars. Males have a dark head, upper body and tail. These parts are brown or grey in the female.

The western Spotted Towhee nest in the ground, rarely more than a foot above the ground. Females lay three-to-five



eggs during breeding season. The young leave the nest after 10-12 days.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spotted_Towhee

Steller's Jay



The Steller's Jay is related to the Blue Jay, but feature a more slender bill and longer legs. The Steller's Jay's head is blackish-brown with light blue streaks on the forehead. This dark coloring gives way from the shoulders and lower breast to silvery blue. The primaries and tail are a rich blue with darker barring.

The bird's diet consists of two-thirds plant matter and one-third animal matter. They eat seeds, nuts, berries and other fruit. They also eat invertebrates, eggs, small rodents, and nestlings.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steller's_Jay

Western Bluebird



The Western Bluebird is a approximately six-to-seven inches in length. They are commonly confused with other bluebirds but have unique markings that are easy to spot.

Males have a bright blue head and throat with orange breast and sides. They also have a brownish patch on back, gray belly and undertail coverts.

The female's blue markings are not as bright as the male's. They include a dull orange breast, and gray throat, belly and undertail coverts.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Bluebird

White Breasted Nuthatch



The White Breasted Nuthatch has the unique ability to move head-first down trees. They are also known to wedge their food into small cracks and hack at them with their powerful bills.

The Nuthatch is a stocky bird with a large head, short tail, and strong feet. They are five-to-six inches long and weigh about an ounce. The upperparts are pale blue-gray, and the face and underparts are white. It has a black cap and a chestnut-colored lower belly.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White-breasted_Nuthatch

Western Scrub Jay

The Western Scrub-Jay is native to the west coast, ranging from southern Washington to Mexico. One of three subspecies, the California Scrub Jay is found in San Diego county.

It is a medium-sized bird, approximately a foot in length (including its tail), and has a 15 inch wingspan.

True to their name, Scrub jays inhabit low scrub and can be found from the mountains to suburbs. They forage in pairs, feeding on insects, grains and berries. They are also known to eat small animals, such as frogs, lizards and even the eggs and young of other birds.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Scrub_Jay



Yellow Rumped Warbler



The Yellow Rumped Warbler gets its name from the yellow patches on its crown, flank and rump. The species consists of four related birds that are found from Canada to Mexico. Males have streaked backs of black on slate blue, white wing patches, a streaked breast. Females also have yellow rumps, but are more dull with brown streaking on the front and back.

The Warblers eat mostly insects, fruit and wax-myrtle berries. They often flit, flycatcher-like, out from their perches in short loops, in search of insects.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yellow-rumped_Warbler

