

Hummingbirds



Hummingbirds are small birds that are very quick and colorful. They can be found in North and South America, and there are over 300 different kinds of them!

They are very small and usually only weigh as much as a penny or a nickel! Hummingbirds get their name from the sound they make when they fly. Their wings move so fast that they create a humming sound. They can flap their wings up to 80 times per second! This helps them to hover in place and fly backwards, something no other bird can do. Hummingbirds are also known for their beautiful colors. Their feathers can be green, blue, purple, or red. Some of them even have feathers that shine in the sunlight. Hummingbirds eat nectar from flowers and sugar water from bird feeders. They have long, thin beaks that are perfect for getting nectar out of flowers. They also eat insects, which they catch in mid-air with their beaks. Hummingbirds are very important for the environment. They help pollinate flowers, which means they help plants make new seeds. They also eat insects that can harm plants. So, next time you see a hummingbird, remember how special they are!

1. Read the passage about "Hummingbirds".
2. Underline each word that you could not read or understand.
3. Circle any sentence that did not make sense.

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Answer according to the reading passage:

1. **Hummingbirds can be found:**
 - a. Europe
 - b. Australia
 - c. North and South America

2. **Hummingbirds only weight as much as a:**
 - a. pebble
 - b. a penny or nickel
 - c. dice

3. **From the reading: ‘*This helps them to hover in place*’. The word **hover** means:**
 - a. stay in place while flying
 - b. fly quickly
 - c. land softly

4. **Hummingbirds eat this from flowers:**
 - a. sugar
 - b. pollen
 - c. nectar

5. **Hummingbirds are important because they help:**
 - a. pollinate flowers
 - b. produce pollen
 - c. reduce insects

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Open Response Questions

Open Response Questions for Thinking Skills:

1. Inferring
 2. Making Connections
 3. Summarizing
 4. Visualizing
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1. Why do you think the author wrote this reading passage?
 2. How is a hummingbird alike and not alike other birds?
 3. In 2 sentences explain what this passage is all about.
 4. What images occur in your mind after reading this? What types of things can you visualize?
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- Is this a fiction or non fiction reading passage? How do you know?
 - Where did the hummingbird get its name from?
 - What do hummingbirds eat?
 - Who do you think would be a hummingbird's predator?
 - Did you enjoy reading about hummingbirds? Why or why not?
 - Write 3 facts about a hummingbird.