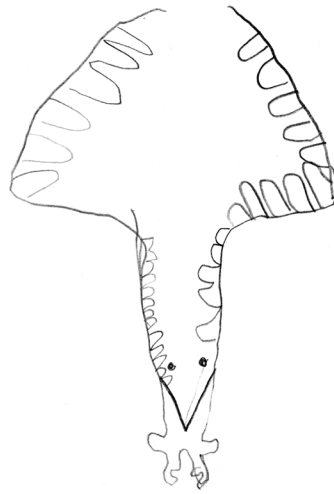
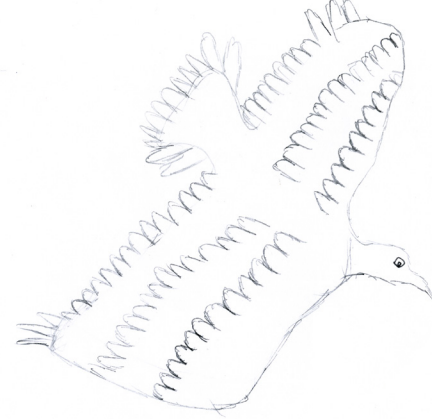
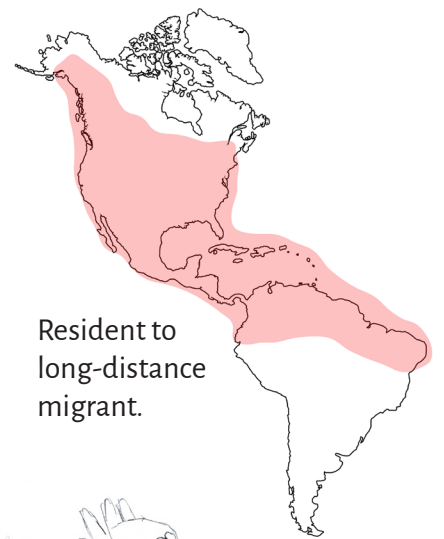


Osprey

Águila Pescadora



Behavior

Adept at soaring and diving but not as maneuverable as other hawks, Ospreys keep to open areas, flying with stiff wingbeats in a steady, rowing motion.

Food

The Osprey is the only hawk on the continent that eats almost exclusively live fish. In North America, more than 80 species of live fresh and saltwater fish account for 99 percent of the Osprey's diet.

Habitat

Unable to dive to more than about three feet below the water's surface, Ospreys gravitate toward shallow fishing grounds, frequenting deep water only where fish school near the surface.

Nesting

Ospreys require nest sites in open surroundings for easy approach, with a wide, sturdy base and safety from ground predators (such as raccoons). Nests are usually built on snags, treetops, or crotches between large branches and trunks.

Barn Swallow

Golondrina Común



Behavior

Watch for their smooth, fluid wingbeats and the way they pull their wingtips back at the end of each stroke. These birds feed almost exclusively in flight, flying lower than many other swallow species and often nearly hugging the ground or water surface.

Food

Flies of all types make up the majority of their diet, along with beetles, bees, wasps, ants, butterflies, moths, and other flying insects. Barn Swallows usually take relatively large, single insects rather than feeding on swarms of smaller prey.

Habitat

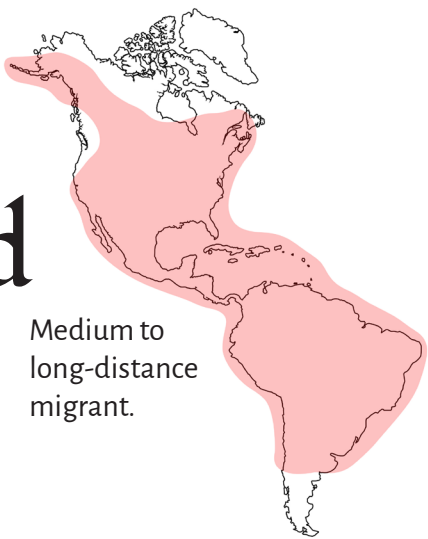
They forage in open areas throughout most of the continent, including suburban parks and ball fields, agricultural fields, beaches, and over open water such as lakes, ponds and coastal waters.

Nesting

Pairs explore a number of potential nesting spots, flying up and hovering to investigate a location, then moving to another site before narrowing their choice. Preferred sites include rafters, sheds and stables, as well as the undersides of bridges.

Black-chinned Hummingbird

Colibrí Gorjinegro



Medium to long-distance migrant.



Behavior

After feeding may perch on high, bare branch for several minutes, surveying territory. During courtship and territorial defense, males display by diving 66-100 feet.

Food

Nectar from flowers, small insects and spiders, sugar water at feeders.

Habitat

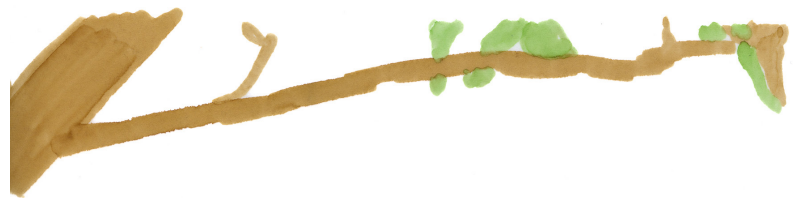
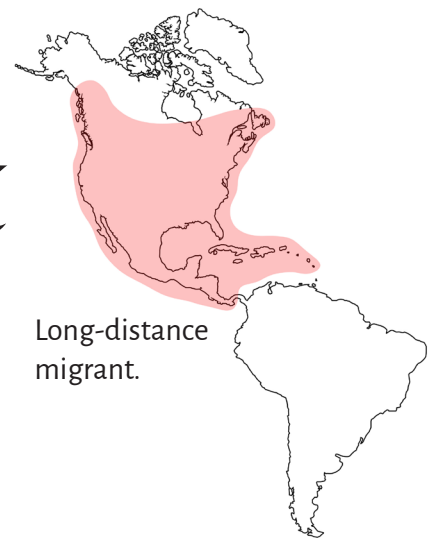
In the Southwest, most common in canyons and along rivers. In arid areas, most often found near cottonwood, sycamore, willow, salt-cedar, sugarberry, and oak. Birds wintering along Gulf very often spend time in shade of oaks.

Nesting

Most nests have been found an average of 6 feet and at most 12 feet above the ground. When newly built, the nest is a compact, deep cup constructed of plant down, spider silk and cocoon fibers.

Common Yellowthroat

Mascarita Común



Behavior

Males arrive first on breeding grounds in the spring and begin defending territories, fighting more intensely when the females arrive. The black mask is an important signal in male fighting. Once the nestlings hatch, they relax their territorial defense.

Food

Common Yellowthroats forage on or near the ground, eating insects and spiders from leaves, bark, branches, flowers, or fruit in low vegetation.

Habitat

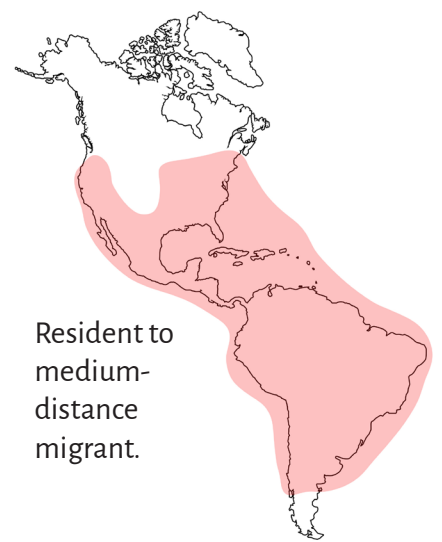
Common Yellowthroats live in thick, tangled vegetation in a wide range of habitats—from wetlands to prairies to pine forests—across North America. Their breeding range stretches across most of the United States, the Canadian provinces, and western Mexico.

Nesting

The female selects a nest site, which is usually on low plants. The female builds her well-concealed nest in 4-5 days and starts by building a platform of grasses and leaves and gradually weaves a loose, bulky outer cup of grasses and sedges.

Great Egret

Garceta Grande



Behavior

Walks with its neck extended and its wings held close to its body. In flight, it is graceful and buoyant, with its neck tucked back against its shoulders and its legs trailing behind.

Food

Eats mainly small fish but also eats amphibians, reptiles, birds, small mammals and invertebrates. It hunts in belly-deep or shallower water.

Habitat

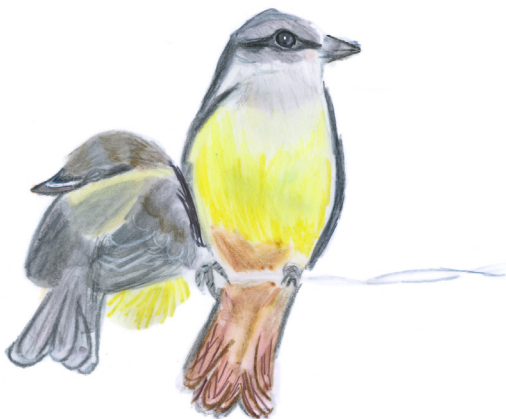
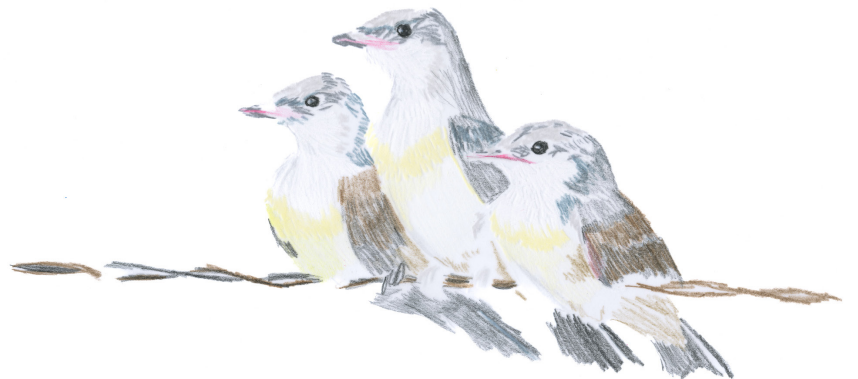
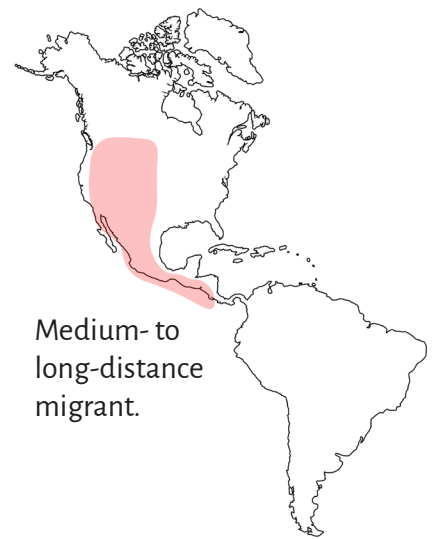
Live in freshwater, brackish, and marine wetlands. During the breeding season they live in colonies in trees or shrubs.

Nesting

Males choose the display areas, where nests are later constructed. The nest itself is up to 100 feet off the ground, often over water, usually in or near the top of a shrub or tree.

Western Kingbird

Tirano Occidental



Behavior

Males usually arrive at breeding areas before females and patrol the loosely defined borders of their territories. Once paired up, the male and female both help defend their territory, which shrinks as the breeding season progresses.

Food

Western Kingbirds are mainly insectivores. They hunt by sight during the day, using acrobatic maneuvers to catch flying insects out of the air.

Habitat

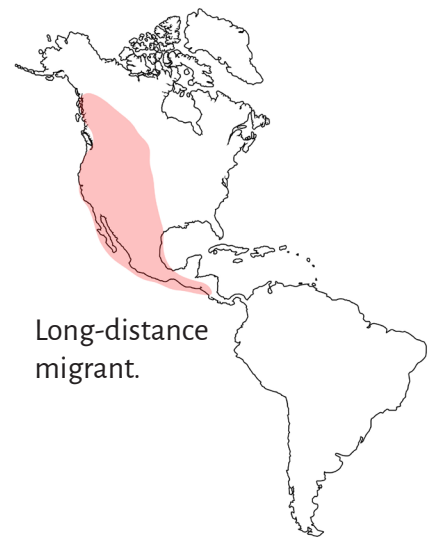
Western Kingbirds breed in open areas across western North America. Because they use trees and shrubs for nesting and open areas for foraging, Western Kingbirds often live near the edges of woodlands.

Nesting

Western Kingbirds build nests on crotches of trees or shrubs. They also use human-made structures such as utility poles. Both males and females visit potential nesting locations, but it's unclear which one chooses the site.

Western Tanager

Piranga Carirroja



Behavior

Western Tanagers spend most of their time quietly, methodically plucking food from twigs, branches, flowers, and foliage in the upper portions of forest trees and shrubs.

Food

During breeding season, Western Tanagers eat mostly insects. They also eat fruit, especially during fall and winter, when it may dominate the diet.

Habitat

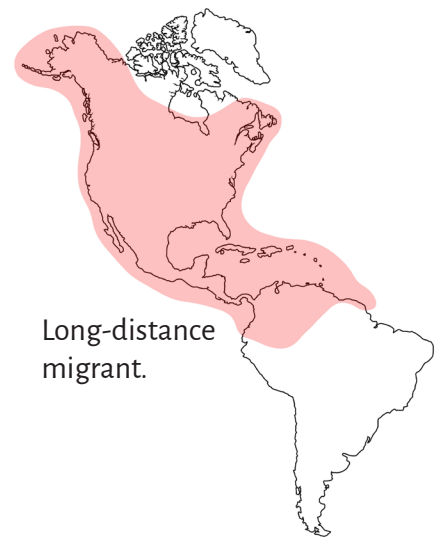
Western Tanagers breed in open coniferous and mixed coniferous-deciduous woodlands. They usually favor open woods including wetlands, forest edges, and burns as well as suburban parks and gardens.

Nesting

Western Tanagers usually nest in relatively open areas of the canopy. Female Western Tanagers do all of the nest building—though their mates keep a close watch on the process, which takes roughly four or five days.

Yellow Warbler

Reíñita Amarilla



Behavior

They forage along slender branches of shrubs and small trees, picking off insect prey as they go or briefly hovering to get at prey on leaves. Singing males perch near the tops of the bushes or trees in their territory.

Food

Eat mostly insects that they pick from foliage or capture on short flights or while hovering to reach leaves.

Habitat

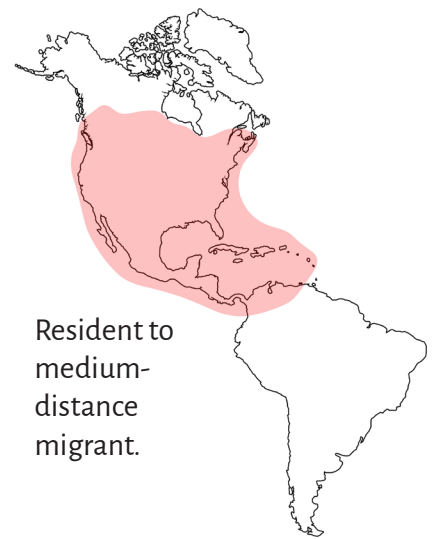
Spends the breeding season in thickets and other disturbed or regrowing habitats, particularly along streams and wetlands.

Nesting

Build their nests in the vertical fork of a bush or small tree. The nest is typically within about 10 feet of the ground but occasionally up to about 40 feet.

Killdeer

Chorlitejo Culirrojo



Behavior

Often seen in dry, flat landscapes, running and halting on the ground in search of insects and earthworms. Although the Killdeer is common around human habitation it is often shy, at first running away rather than flying.

Food

Feeds primarily on invertebrates. Follows farmers' plows in hopes of retrieving any unearthed worms or insect larvae. Will also eat seeds left in agricultural lands.

Habitat

Inhabit open areas. They are probably most familiar around towns, where they live on lawns, driveways, athletic fields, parking lots, airports, and golf courses.

Nesting

Nests are simple often placed on slight rises in their open habitats. Killdeer may make several nests not far away from each other before choosing one to lay in. The duplication may help to confuse predators.

Bank Swallow

Avión Zapador



Behavior

Like many of their close relatives in the swallow family, are consummate aerial predators, deft in their pursuit of flying insects. Wingbeats are generally shallow and fluttery, with brief glides.

Food

Almost exclusively eat flying or jumping insects, such as bees, wasps, ants, butterflies, and moths. The swallows catch insects while flying, often as high as 50 feet above water or open ground.

Habitat

Live in low areas along rivers, streams, and reservoirs. Their territories usually include vertical cliffs or banks where they nest in colonies of 10 to 2,000 nests. They forage in open areas and avoid places with tree cover.

Nesting

Build nests, often in large colonies, in vertical banks and bluffs. These colonies are usually made in fairly loose soils that are easy for the birds to burrow into, and are located near large bodies of water so that there is ample airspace for flying.