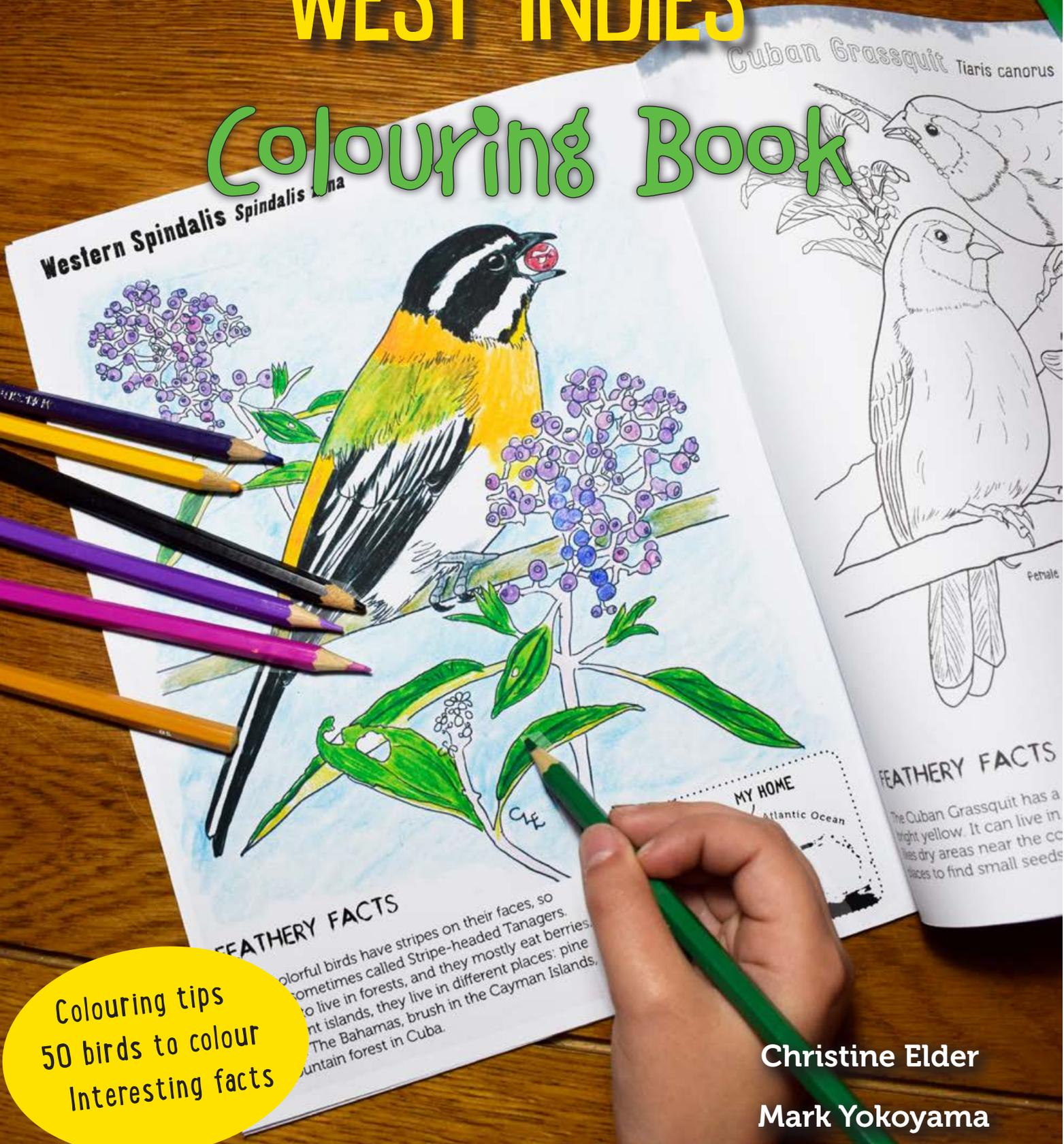


ENDEMIC BIRDS OF THE WEST INDIES

Colouring Book



Western Spindalis *Spindalis zana*

Cuban Grassquit *Tiaris canorus*

FEATHERY FACTS
Colorful birds have stripes on their faces, so sometimes called Stripe-headed Tanagers. They live in forests, and they mostly eat berries. In the Bahamas, they live in different places: pine forest in the Bahamas, brush in the Cayman Islands, and mountain forest in Cuba.

MY HOME
Atlantic Ocean

FEATHERY FACTS
The Cuban Grassquit has a bright yellow. It can live in dry areas near the coast to find small seeds.

Colouring tips
50 birds to colour
Interesting facts

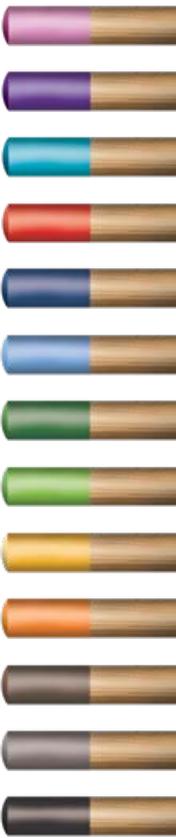
Christine Elder
Mark Yokoyama

Top Colouring Tips

You can colour in the pages with pens, paints and pencils. Here are some tips if you choose to use pencils or paints. Use the colour key as a guide to the colour of the birds. If you're using colouring pencils, gather as many colours together as you can, the more colours you have the better!

Colours you might need

Don't worry if you haven't got many of these colours, use the blending tips below, and just have fun colouring these amazing birds.

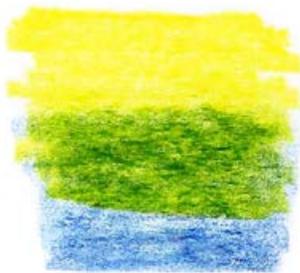


When you use a pencil to colour in, it's called **shading**. Make sure to use the flat side of the pencil and build up the colour slowly in layers.

If you have any, watercolour pencils are great for giving a really bold colour which is especially good for areas of black.

Brilliant blending

Blend two colours together by shading one colour on top of another to make the colour you need.



Bird plumage can merge from one colour into another. Use your shading skills to blend starting with one colour and blending to another colour.



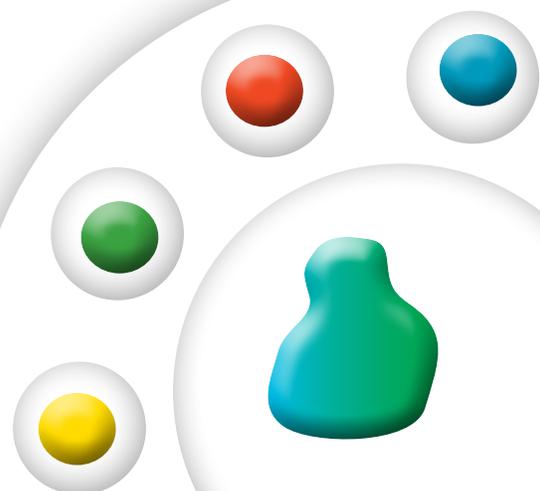
Bring your leaves to life by blending two colours of green starting with dark green near the leaf centre or leaf veins.



Colouring with paints

If you're using paints to do your colouring, remember to mix colours together to get the perfect colour for your picture. You don't need a pallet, just use a dinner plate or used plastic pots.

The plumage on this Ridgway's Hawk has a pale grey background that you paint first. When dry, red/brown feather details can be painted on top.



Colouring Key

use these pictures to help you with your colouring



1 Antillean Euphonia



2 Bee Hummingbird



3 Guadeloupe Woodpecker



4 Barbuda Warbler



5 Hispaniolan Woodpecker



6 Grenada Dove



7 Forest Thrush



8 Bahama Woodstar



9 Adelaide's Warbler



10 La Selle Thrush



11 Hispaniolan Parakeet



12 Bahama Yellowthroat



13 Antillean Siskin



14 Puerto Rican Emerald



15 Hispaniolan Parrot



16 Antillean Crested Hummingbird



17 Cuban Tody



18 Black-crowned Palm-Tanager



19 West Indian Whistling-Duck



20 Zapata Sparrow



21 Imperial Parrot



22 Bridled Quail-Dove



23 Golden Swallow



24 Scaly-naped Pigeon



25 Bananaquit



26 St. Vincent Parrot



27 Western Spindalis



28 Cuban Grassquit



29 Palmchat



30 Hispaniolan Lizard-Cuckoo



31 Elfyn Woods Warbler



32 Crested Quail-Dove



33 Jamaican Lizard-Cuckoo



34 White-breasted Thrasher



35 Cuban Pygmy-Owl



36 Cuban Trogon



37 Puerto Rican Woodpecker



38 Puerto Rican Parrot



39 Purple-throated Carib



40 Sad Flycatcher



41 Red-legged Thrush



42 Puerto Rican Bullfinch



43 Streamertail



44 White-chinned Thrush



45 Montserrat Oriole



46 Blue-headed Quail-Dove



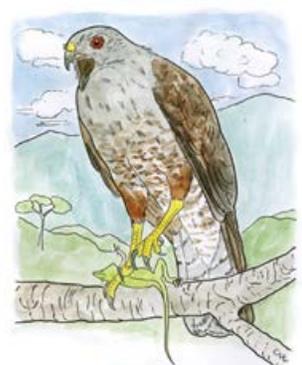
47 Cuban Parrot



48 Yellow-billed Parrot



49 Hispaniolan Trogon



50 Ridgway's Hawk

About BirdsCaribbean

BirdsCaribbean is a vibrant international network of members and partners committed to conserving Caribbean birds and their habitats. We raise awareness, promote sound science, and empower local partners to build a region where people appreciate, conserve and benefit from thriving bird populations and ecosystems. We are a non-profit membership organization. More than 100,000 people participate in our programmes each year, making BirdsCaribbean the most broad-based conservation organization in the region.



Mark Yokoyama is a writer living on the island of St. Martin. He loves preserving and sharing everything that is special about the Caribbean. He does this with BirdsCaribbean and the non-profit association Les Fruits de Mer. Learn more at: LesFruitsdeMer.com.



Christine Elder is a naturalist, educator, and biological illustrator from the Pacific Northwest of the U.S. She loves drawing birds and birdwatching, and has traveled extensively to observe and sketch birds in the wild. Learn more at: ChristineElder.com.



Learn about the amazing and unique birds of the Caribbean while you colour them in.

Do you want more Caribbean bird activities and teaching tools? We have bird colouring books and activities, and a ten-lesson program called BirdSleuth Caribbean. To learn more, download free materials, or contact us, visit birdscaribbean.org.



ENDEMIC BIRDS OF THE WEST INDIES COLOURING BOOK

Illustrations by Christine Elder
Text by Mark Yokoyama
Design by Madeleine Smith

Edited by Lisa Sorenson and Jessica Rozek Cañizares
Maps by Alison DeGraff Ollivierre

Sponsored by

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Forest Service International Programs
BirdsCaribbean members and donors

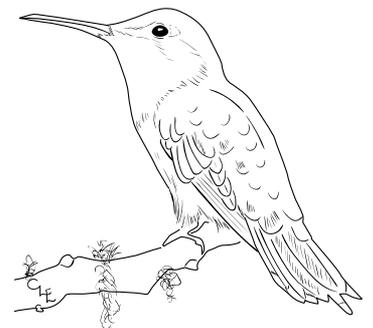
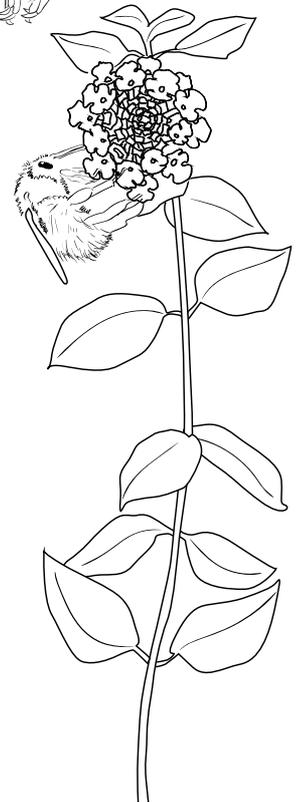
Produced by BirdsCaribbean



Thank you to all the educators and ornithologists that contributed to the development of this colouring book, including Maydiel Cañizares, Ancilleno Davis, Andrew Dobson, Jeff Gerbracht, Alieny González-Alfonso, Nathaniel González, Israel Guzmán, Scott Johnson, Susan Krupica, Natalya Lawrence, Anthony Levesque, Emma Lewis, Hannah Madden, Ricardo Miller, Alcides Morales, Nils Navarro, Justin Proctor, Ann Sutton, Kate Wallace, and Jennifer Wheeler

Endemic Birds of the West Indies Colouring Book
ISBN 978-0-578-23184-6
1st Edition, 2020

Illustration Copyright 2020 by Christine Elder
Text Copyright 2020 by BirdsCaribbean (www.BirdsCaribbean.org)
All rights reserved



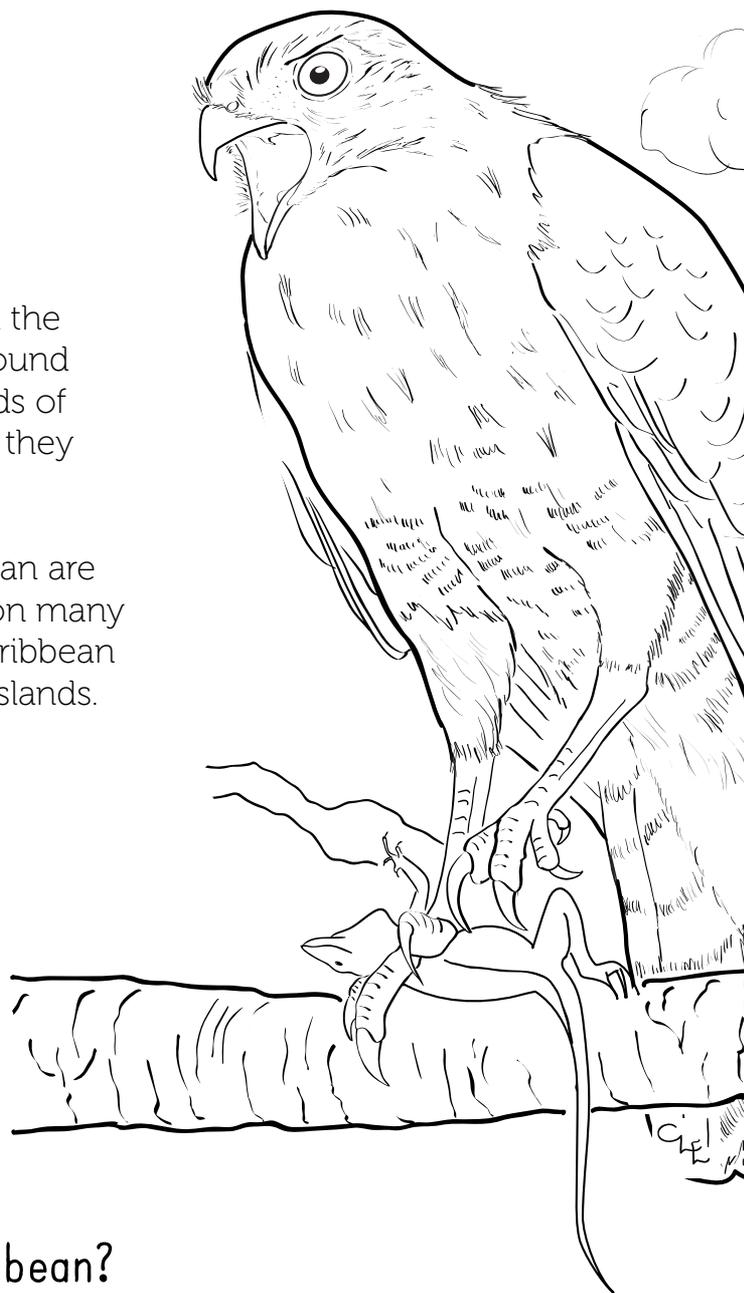
The Caribbean is full of endemic birds.

But what are endemic birds?

Endemic birds are birds that are only found in a particular area. For example, a bird found only in the Caribbean is endemic to the Caribbean. A bird found only on Jamaica is endemic to Jamaica. 171 kinds of birds are endemic to the Caribbean. This means they don't live anywhere else in the world.

About a third of the birds that live in the Caribbean are endemic. That's a lot! Some of them are found on many islands, but many live on just one island. The Caribbean has lots of endemic birds because it has lots of islands.

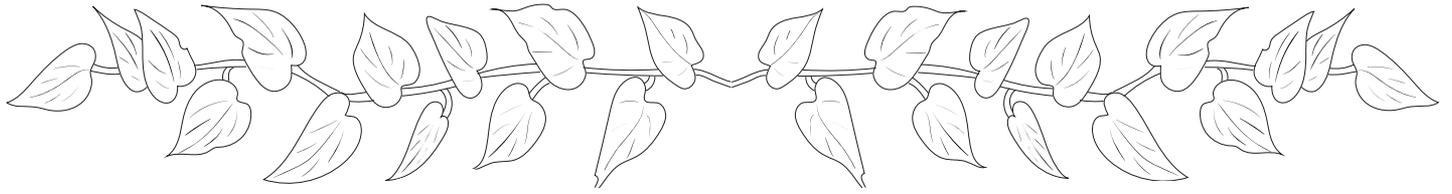
An endemic bird is unique to one place. It can't be found anywhere else!



Why are there so many in the Caribbean?

Some birds travel thousands of miles to their nesting areas and back each year. Other birds live their whole life in the area where they were born. Sometimes birds that don't usually travel arrive on a new island by accident. This can happen when a big storm blows them to a new place. Once they get to a new island, they may stay put in their new home if conditions are right.

But what if this new island is different from the one they came from? If the birds came from a hilly island and landed on a flat one, they might need to change their way of life. Maybe the birds need to eat different food or make nests in different places. Over time, the offspring of these birds adapt to their new home. Over thousands of years, they can become a new species—an endemic species that only lives on one island.



Why are endemic birds important?

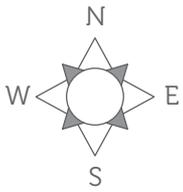
Having unique birds makes the Caribbean special. Each part of the Caribbean has its own special birds, just like each island has its own special foods and cultural traditions. Celebrating these birds is a way of celebrating something that is found nowhere else in the world.

But we also have to protect our endemic birds. If we don't protect them and the wild places where they live, they could disappear from the earth forever.

**Some of our endemic birds are already very rare.
Without our help they could become extinct.**

As you colour these vibrant birds and learn about them, you will also take a tour of the Caribbean. Each bird has its own story and its own home. Some of these birds even live where you do. Your choices can help these birds. Read more to learn what you can do to make sure these birds always have a place on your island.





North
America



G
r
e
a
t
e
r
A
n
t

A
n
t

C
A
R
I
B
B
E
A
N

S
E
A

Central
America

South



Welcome to the West Indies!

171 Endemic Birds in the West Indies

Some birds are endemic to just one island or country. The numbers on this map tell you how many species of endemic birds are found in only one country.

Other birds are endemic to a group of islands and can be found across a region.



ENDEMIC IN DANGER



Many of the unique birds in the Caribbean are in danger. Different birds face different problems. Here are a few of these threats:

- Some birds are losing their homes. Many birds need a special type of habitat to make their home, like a forest or a marsh. When people clear these areas to build cities, the birds don't have anywhere to live or raise their families.
- Birds can be hurt by animals that don't belong in the Caribbean. Humans brought many new animals to the Caribbean. Sometimes it was on purpose, but often it was by accident. Many of these animals can hurt birds. Rats can eat bird eggs and mongooses can eat birds. If there are too many goats in one place they can eat all the plants, leaving less habitats for birds.
- People hunt and capture birds. Some birds are hunted for food and others are put in cages to be sold as pets. But wild birds belong in the wild.
- Hurricanes and other natural disasters can kill birds and destroy their homes. Birds have great survival skills, but if a bird is already in danger in other ways, a big storm can be really bad. On a small island there may be nowhere for them to go to get away from a storm. It is important to help birds all the time so they are strong when a storm comes.

You Can Help Birds!

Plant a Tree

You can help birds by planting a tree in your backyard or school. Or you can make a garden with lots of flowers and shrubs that birds like. Trees provide food and shelter for birds. Native trees are the best. Native plants and native birds have adapted together over time to help each other. You can ask your teacher or a local nature group what trees and flowers are best on your island.



Keep Your Island Clean

Litter is bad for animals and wild spaces. Especially plastic, which can stick around for hundreds of years. Birds and other animals can get sick and die if they accidentally eat plastic. You can make a difference. Avoid buying plastic if you can, and never throw trash on the ground. You can even organize a clean-up day to pick up trash around your school or home.

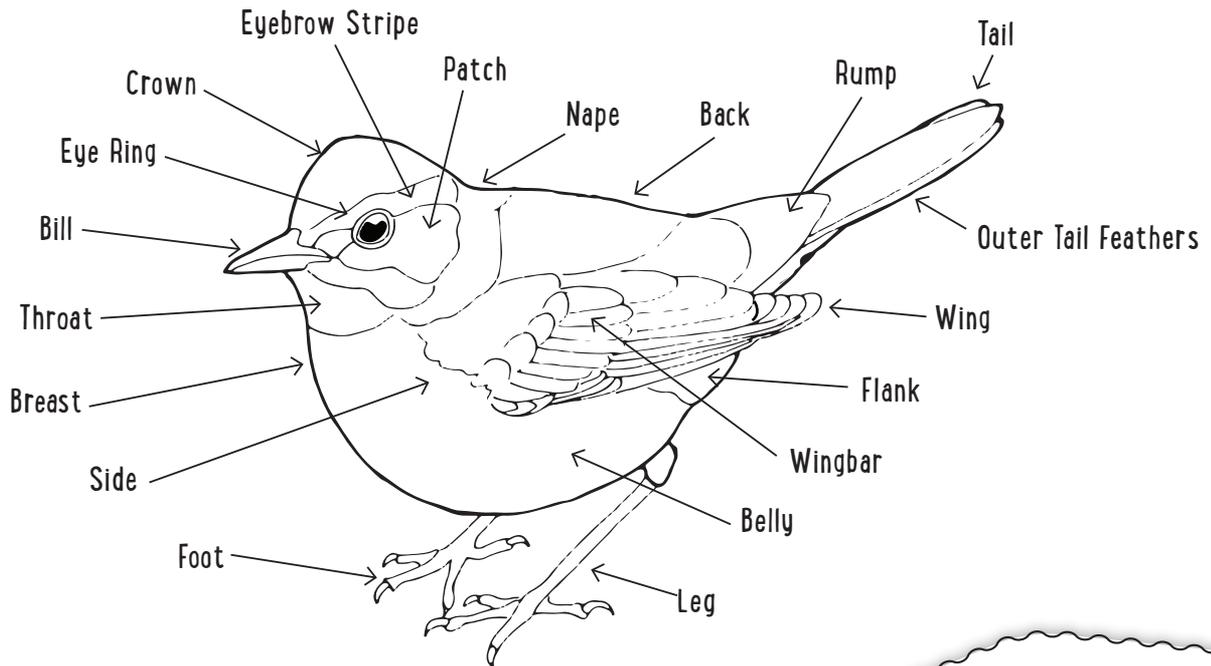
Protect Birds from Pets

Cats and dogs are great pets, but if you let them outside on their own, they can hurt or kill birds. It's not because they are bad, but it is their natural instinct. You can love your pets and protect birds at the same time. Keep your dog on a leash when you are out in nature and keep your cat indoors.



PARTS OF A BIRD

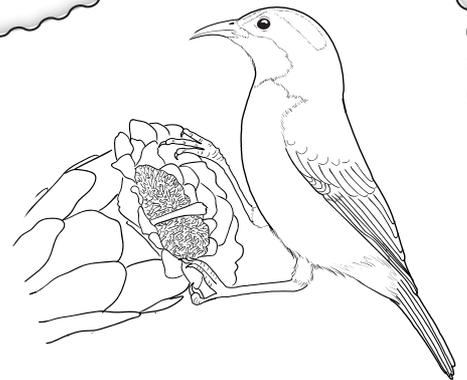
Knowing the parts of a bird can help you colour them. Each part has a different name. What colour is the crown, the throat, the wing or the tail? The colouring key on the cover is easier to use when you can name each part of a bird.



When you know the parts of a bird, you can draw it and describe it. This is one way bird scientists can tell one kind of bird from another. You can do it, too!

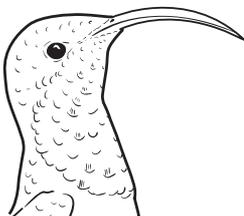


If a bird has:
a black head,
a white eyebrow stripe,
and a yellow belly...
maybe it is a Bananaquit!



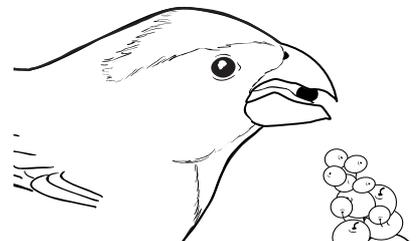
The shape of each part tells you how a bird lives.

Hummingbirds have long bills to dip into flowers and drink the sweet nectar.

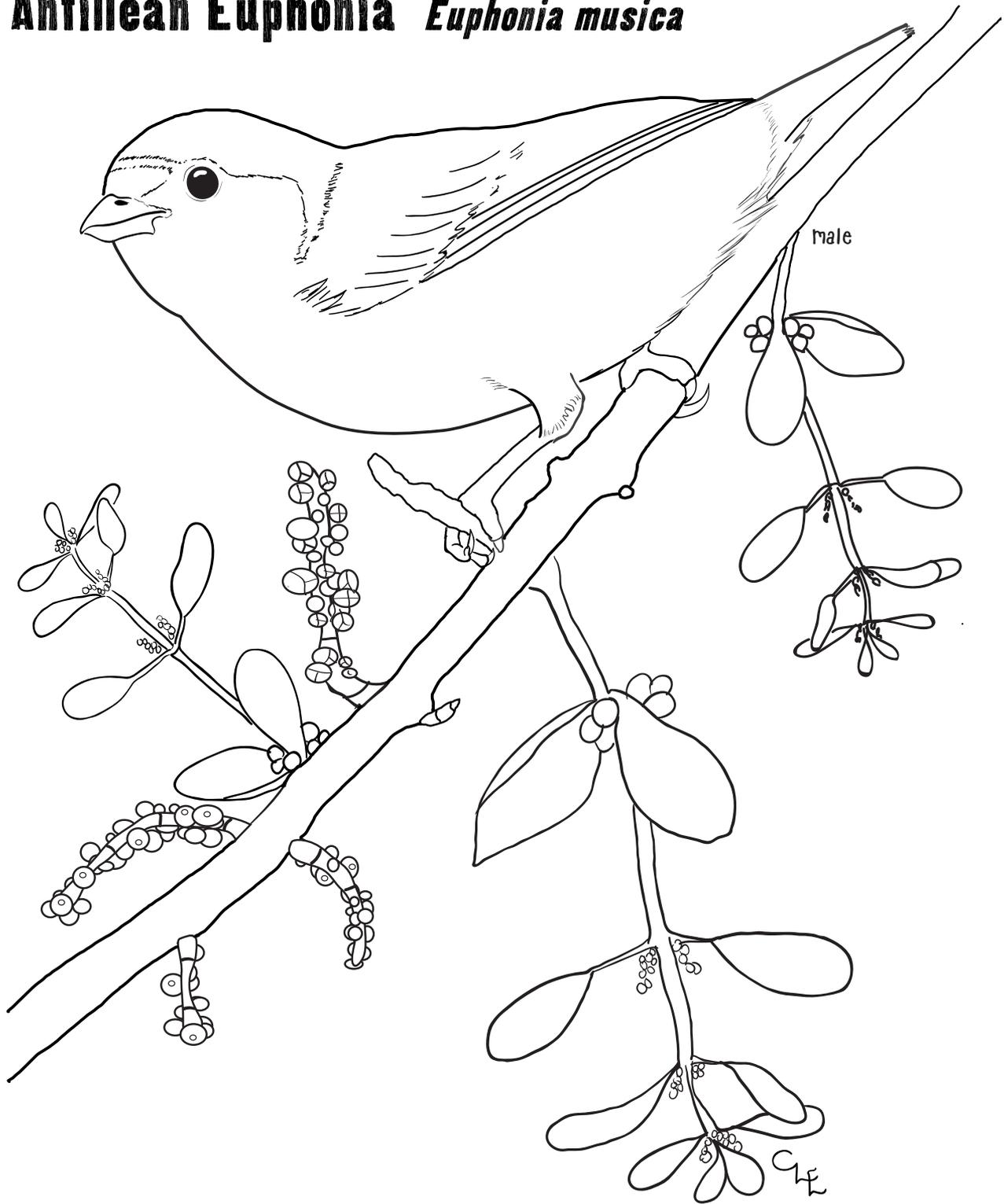


Owls have huge eyes for seeing in the dark.

A bullfinch has a short, thick bill for breaking open tough seeds.



Antillean Euphonia *Euphonia musica*



1



FEATHERY FACTS

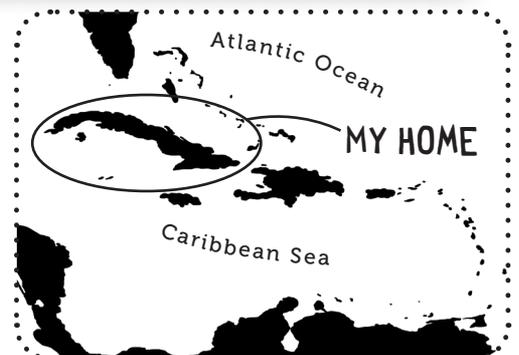
This bird wears lots of colours. Males are dark with orange bellies. Females are mostly green. Both of them have bright blue on the top of their head. On the island of Dominica, they are called Christmas Bird because they like to eat mistletoe.

Bee Hummingbird *Mellisuga helenae*



FEATHERY FACTS

This bird is the smallest bird in the world, not much bigger than a bumblebee! But it has a big appetite. Each day it can visit 1,500 flowers to feed on nectar, eating up to half its weight. At the same time, it **pollinates** the plants, helping them to grow and multiply. This bird lives only in Cuba.



Guadeloupe Woodpecker *Melanerpes herminieri*

3

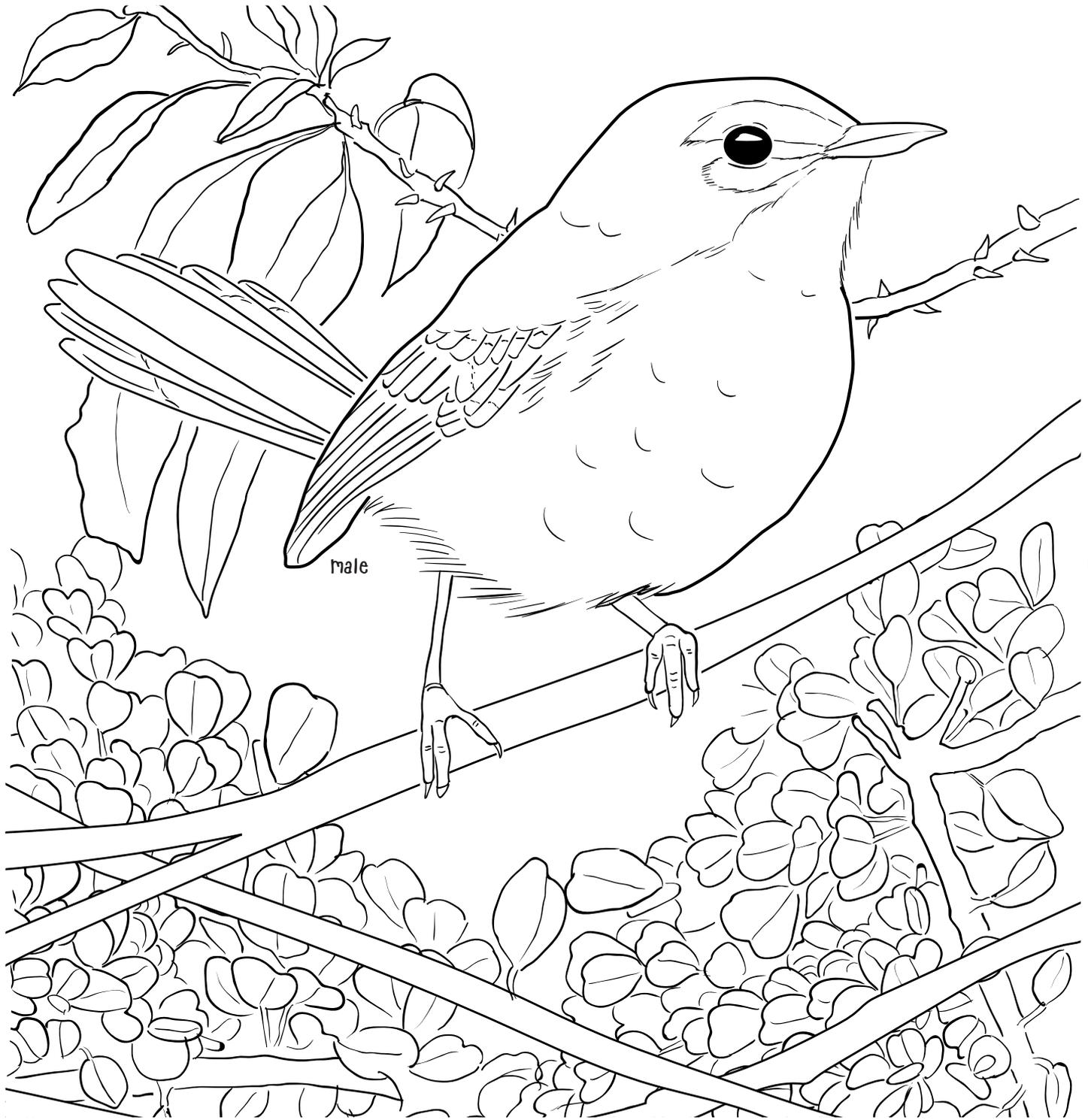


FEATHERY FACTS

What's that drumming sound? The Guadeloupe Woodpecker finds tasty insects by digging into trees with its beak. It also talks to other woodpeckers by beating out a rhythm. Woodpeckers are very important to other birds that nest in **cavities**. They make nests in the holes woodpeckers drill in trees.



Barbuda Warbler *Setophaga subita*



FEATHERY FACTS

The small island of Barbuda is the only place in the world where this yellow and silver-gray beauty lives. The lively little Barbuda Warbler is one of the rarest in the world – only about 1,000 are left. We need to protect its forest home in Barbuda, where it lives and hunts for insects.



Hispaniolan Woodpecker *Melanerpes striatus*

5



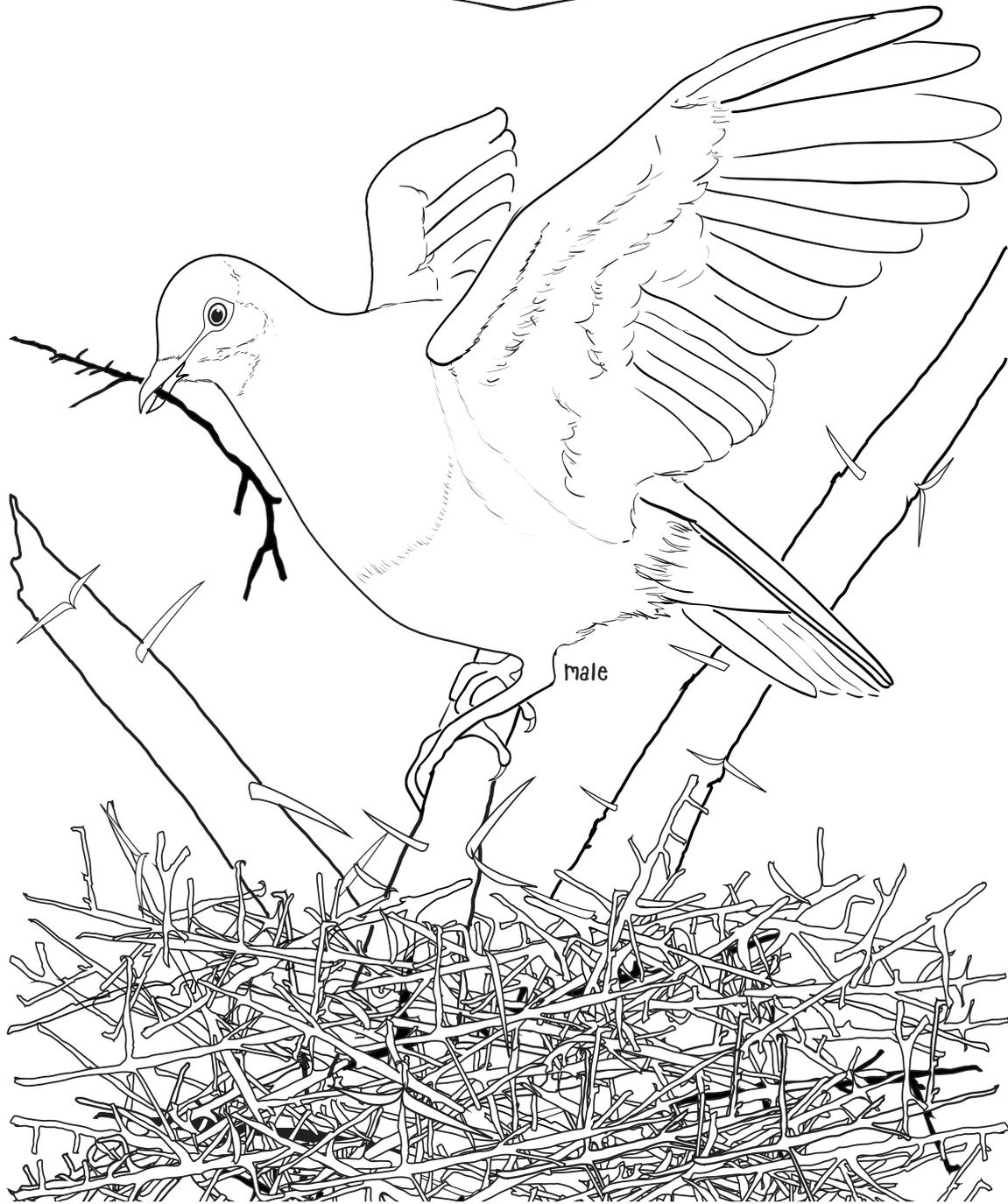
FEATHERY FACTS

A natural carpenter, the Hispaniolan Woodpecker uses its beak to carve a nest hole in a tree. After it raises its own **chicks**, many other kinds of birds use the empty cavity for their own **nests**. Without the woodpecker, those birds would have no place to nest and their chicks would have no home.

My home



Grenada Dove *Leptotila wellsi*



FEATHERY FACTS

The Grenada Dove lives only in dry **forest** near the sea. Found only on Grenada, it has few places to live and it is very rare. There are only about 160 left in the world. Its forest home needs protection for it to survive. It also needs protection from **non-native** mongooses, which eat adults and young birds.



Forest Thrush *Turdus lherminieri*

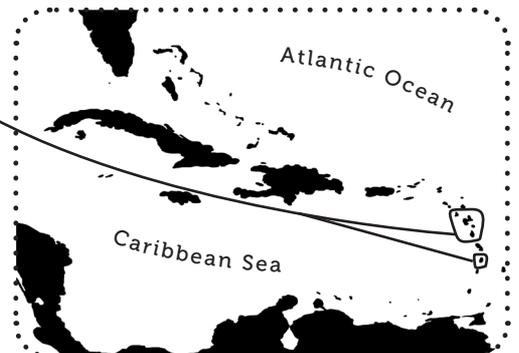


7

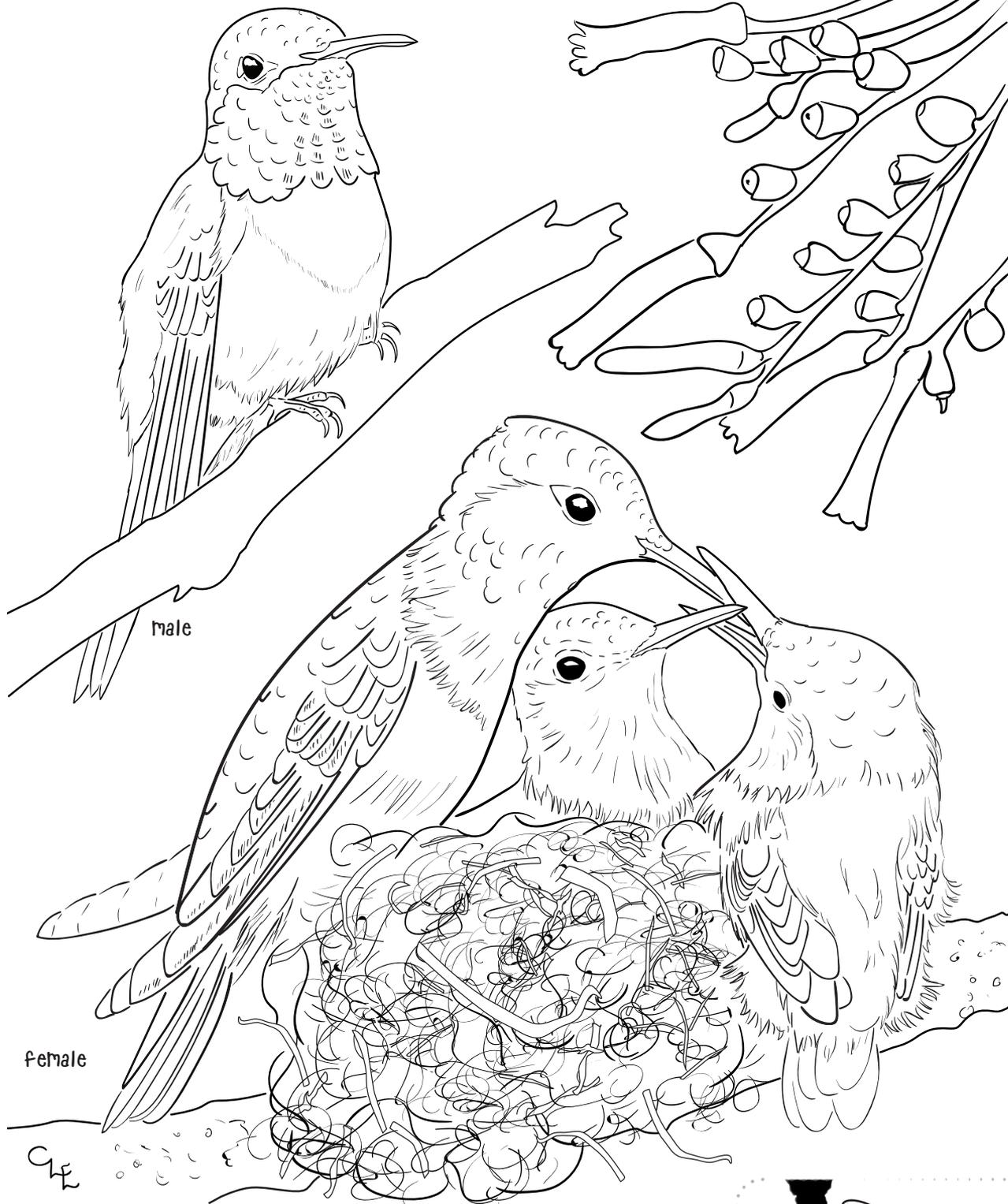
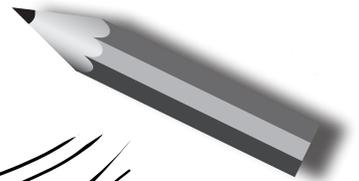
FEATHERY FACTS

This shy bird is often called the Yellow-legged Thrush. It only lives on four islands: Montserrat, Guadeloupe, Dominica and St. Lucia. Its preferred **habitat** is mountain forests and swamp forests. It sings a soft musical song, mainly before sunrise.

MY HOME



Bahama Woodstar *Nesophlox evelynae*

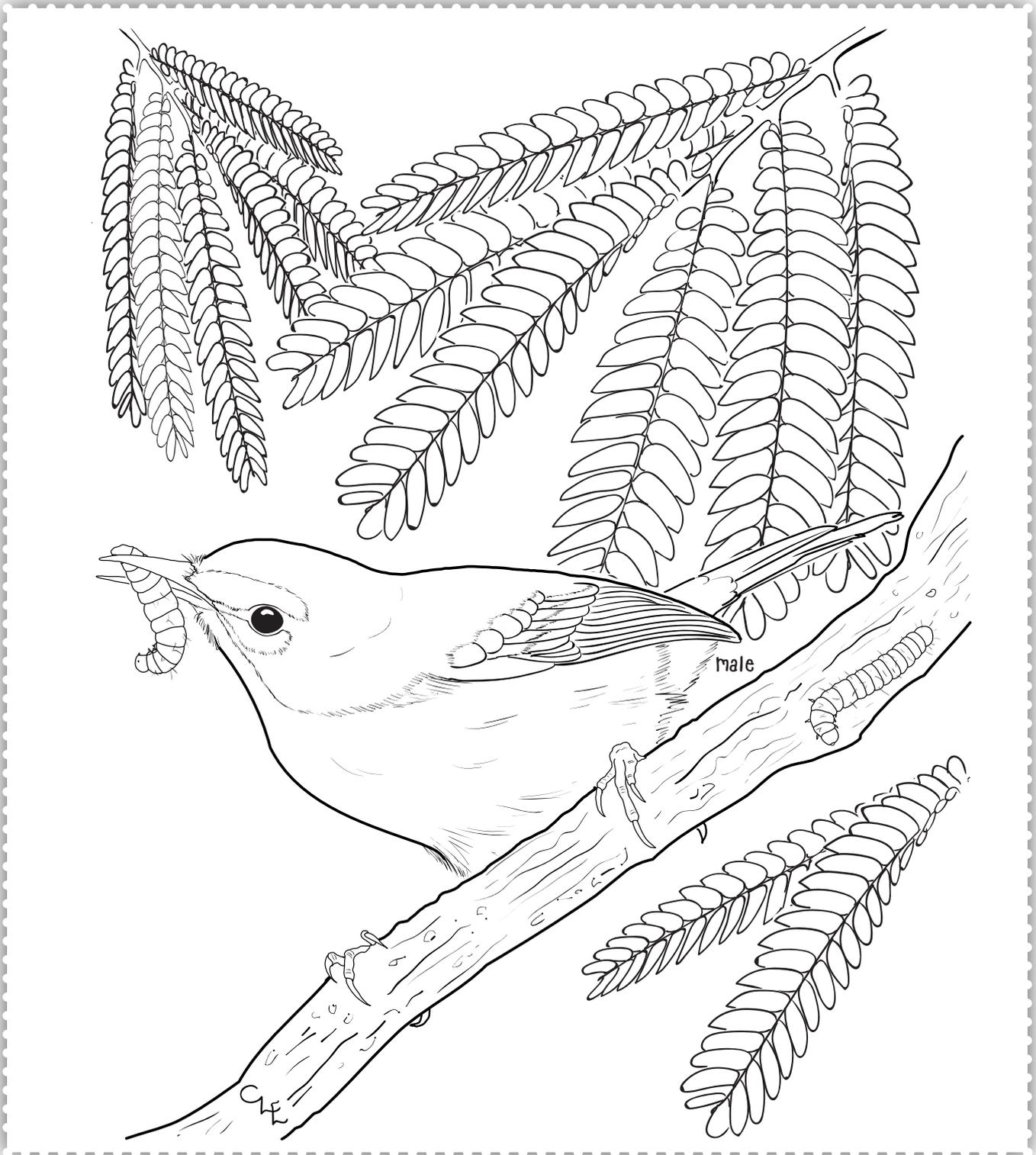


FEATHERY FACTS

The star of Bahamian forests and gardens is the beautiful Bahama Woodstar. Only the males have a patch of glittering purple on their chin. When they fly, you can see that males have forked tails and females have rounded tails. Male and female birds often look different from each other.



Adelaide's Warbler *Setophaga adelaidae*



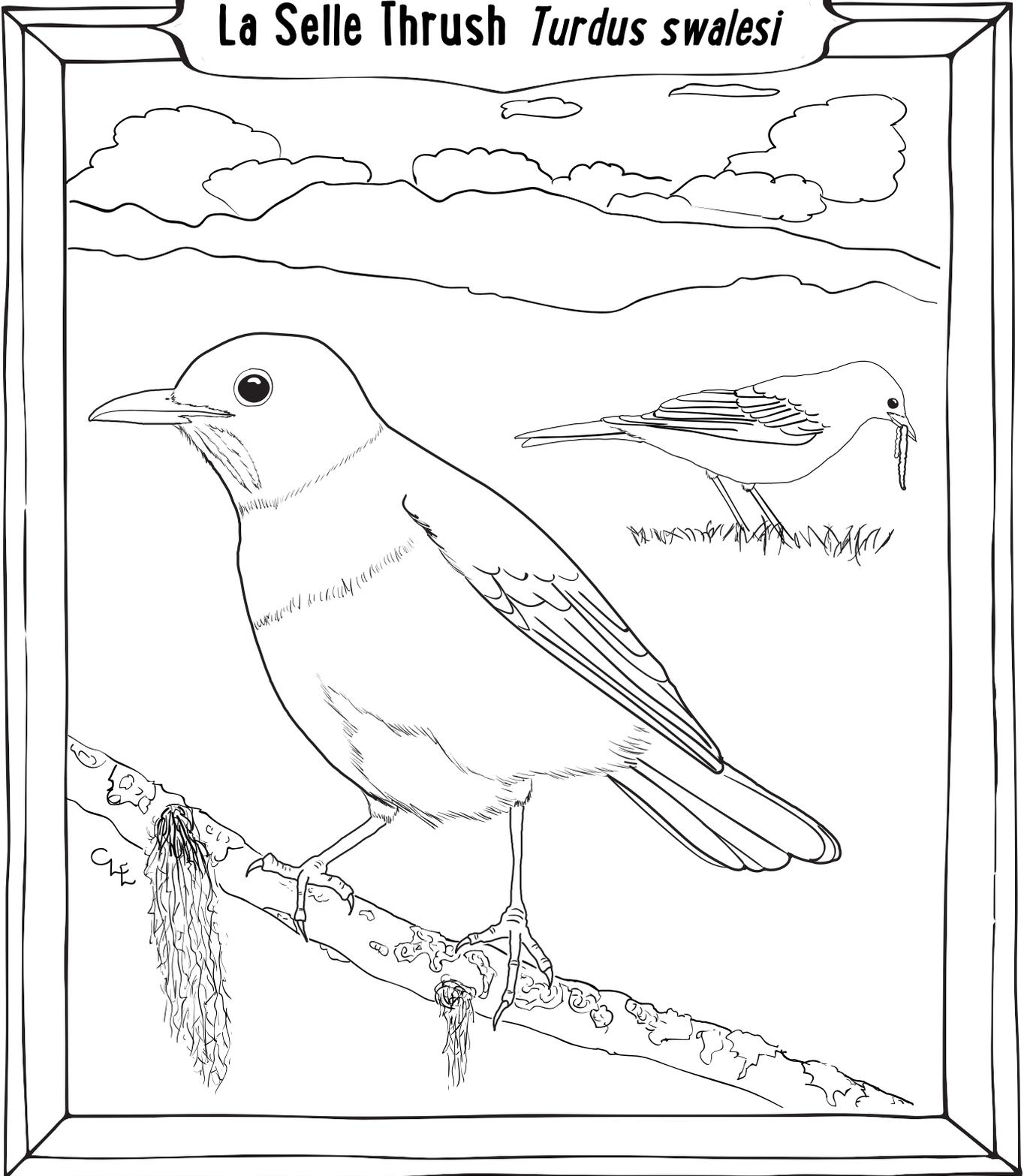
9

FEATHERY FACTS

This little bird has a sunny yellow belly and it sings a sweet song. It hops around on branches, searching for insects to eat. It is only found on the island of Puerto Rico. There, they call it Butterfly Eater or *Reinita Mariposera* in Spanish. Maybe that's because it likes eating caterpillars.



La Selle Thrush *Turdus swalesi*



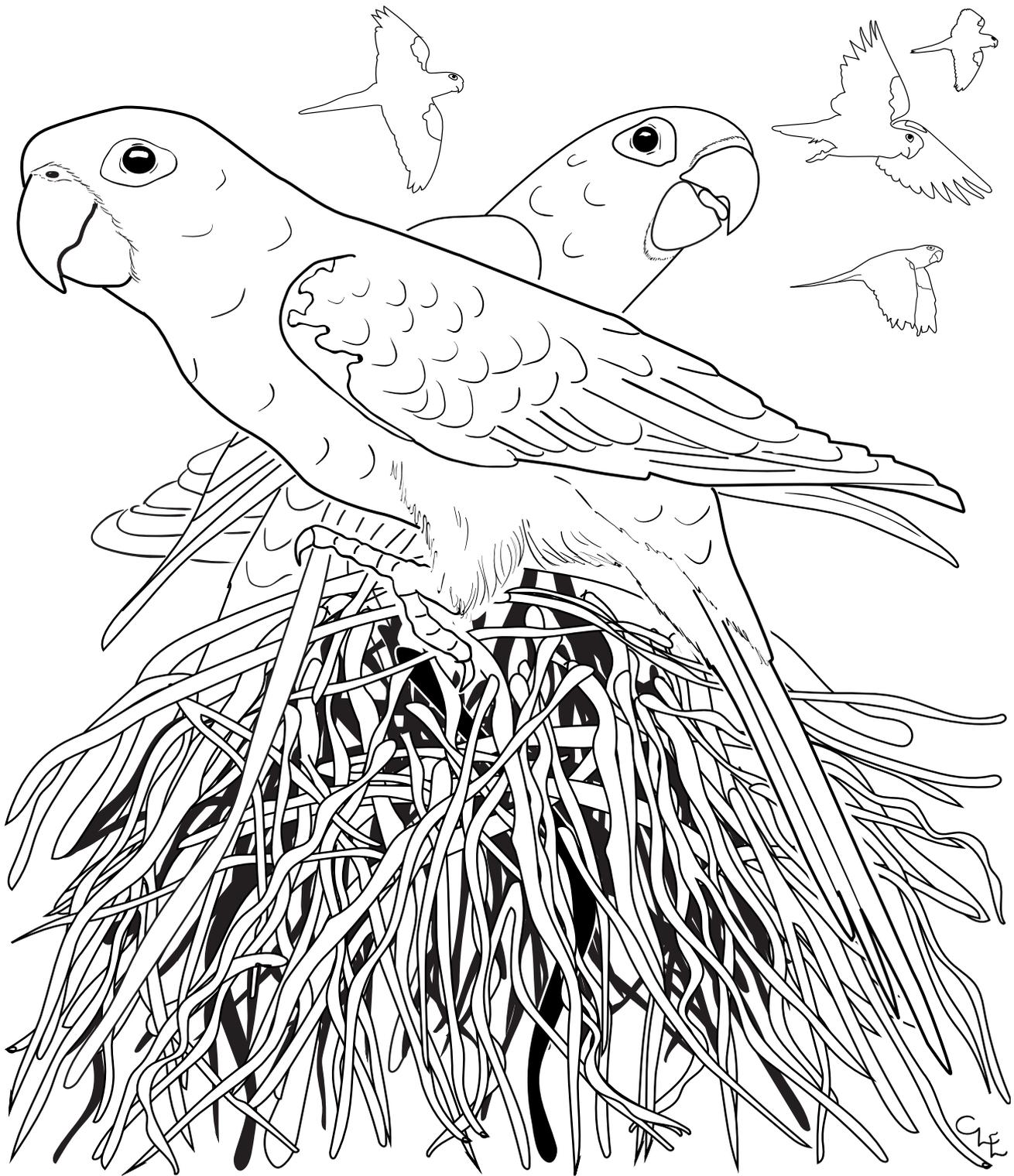
10

FEATHERY FACTS

This bird lives mostly in the mountains on the island of Hispaniola. It wakes up at dawn to sing its song. After that, it heads to the ground to look for insects and worms to eat. It likes to make its **nest** out of moss. It is an **endangered species** because its forest home is being cut down.



Hispaniolan Parakeet *Psittacara chloropterus*



11

FEATHERY FACTS

These bright green birds love a crowd. Sometimes you can see dozens of them together in a **flock**. They can live in forests, farms, and sometimes even cities. When they fly, you can see the red on their wings. They live only on Hispaniola.



Bahama Yellowthroat *Geothlypis rostrata*



FEATHERY FACTS

This bird can only be found on six islands in The Bahamas. It looks like its North American cousin, the Common Yellowthroat, which visits every winter. Each prefers different types of homes, called **habitats**. The Bahama Yellowthroat lives in **forests** and the Common Yellowthroat lives in **wetlands**.



Antillean Siskin *Spinus dominicensis*



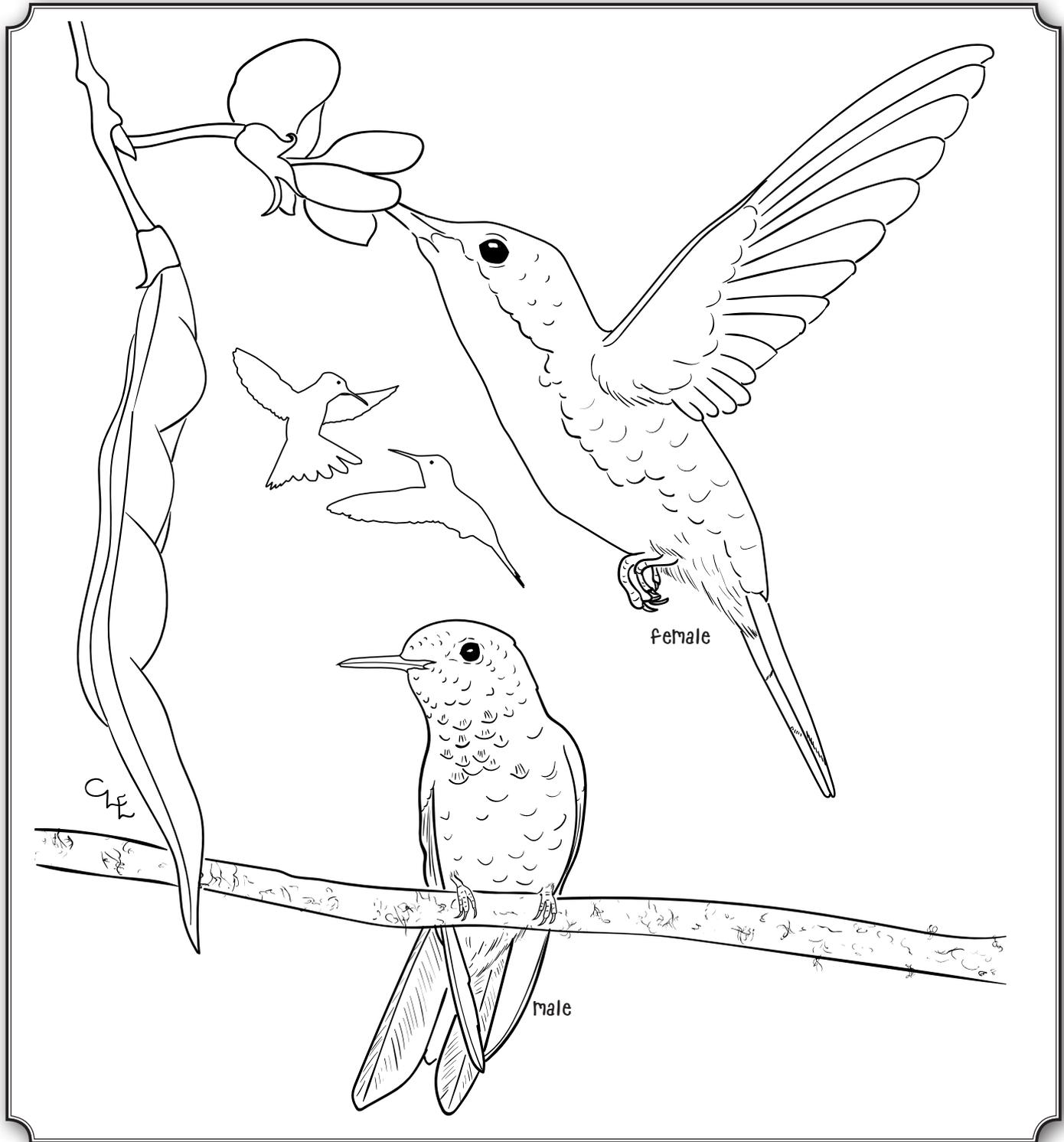
13

FEATHERY FACTS

This little bird lives in the mountains of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Its favourite place to live is in pine forests high up in the mountains. It feeds on fruit and seeds. As people take over wild spaces, it has fewer places to live.



Puerto Rican Emerald *Chlorostilbon maugaeus*



FEATHERY FACTS

These tiny hummingbirds are named after the sparkling green of their feathers. They use their long pointed beaks and tongues to feed on insects, spiders, and nectar from flowers. The males' feathers are especially bright - to attract females. Often male birds are more colourful than females.



Hispaniolan Parrot *Amazona ventralis*



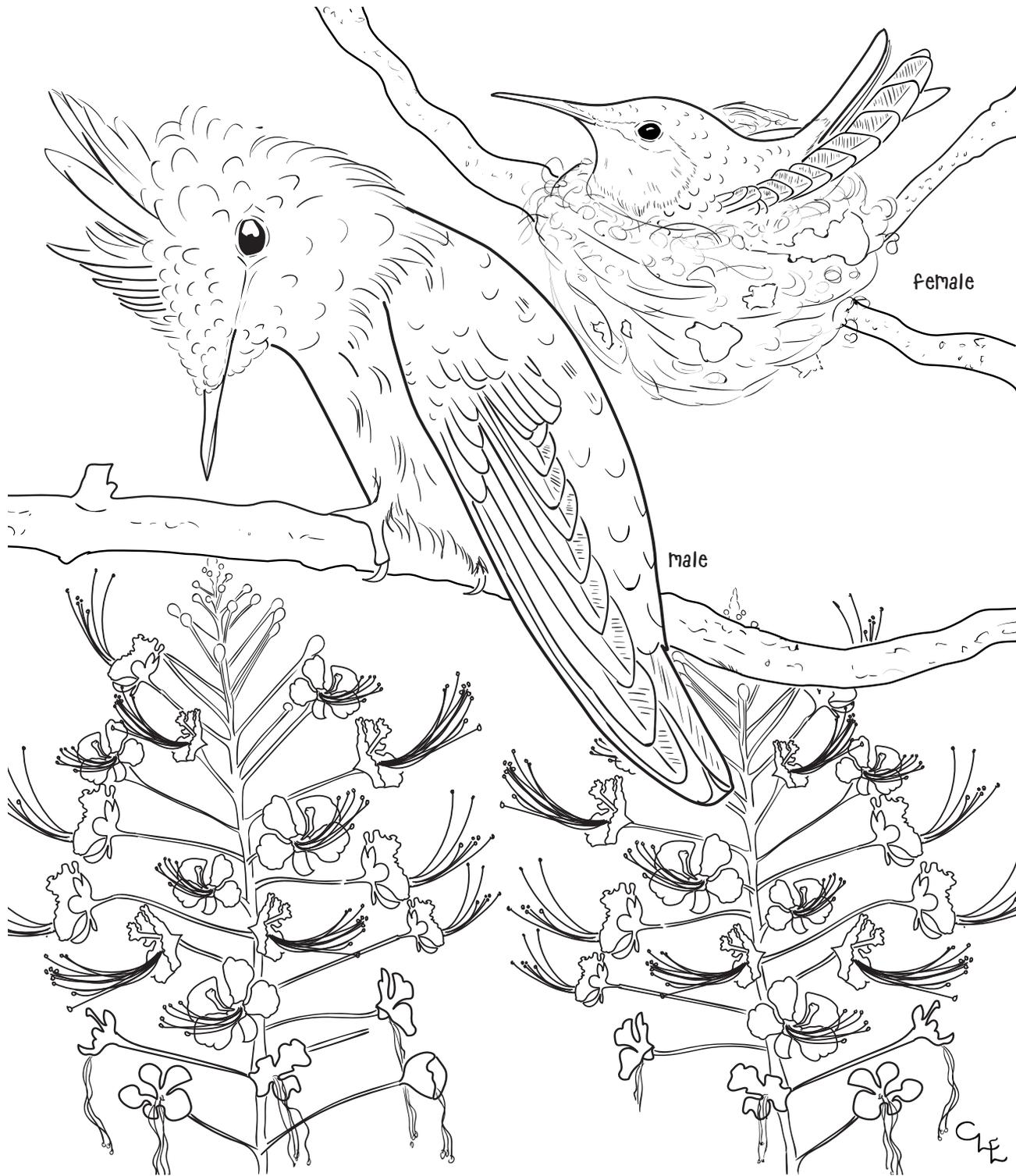
15

FEATHERY FACTS

This parrot is green, with white on its forehead and red on its belly. They love eating fruits, berries, seeds and nuts. They always talk to each other while they eat. Their natural habitat is **forests** but because of **habitat loss**, they have fewer places to live.



Antillean Crested Hummingbird *Orthorhyncus cristatus*

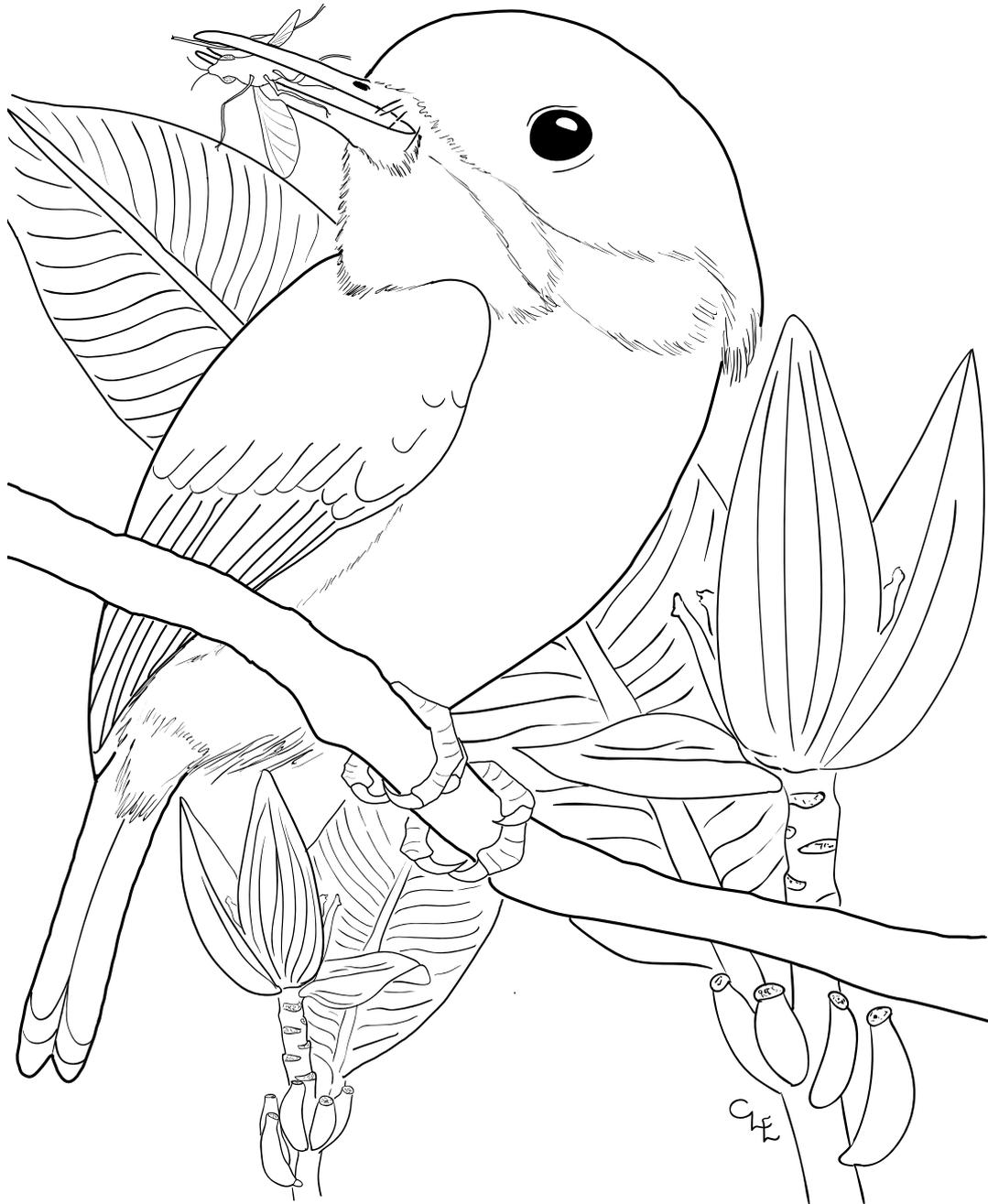


FEATHERY FACTS

The male of this tiny hummingbird has a tall spiky mohawk. Its feathers are a sparkling green when they catch the light. They spend their days visiting flowers to drink **nectar**. When building their tiny **nest**, they use spider webs to hold it together.



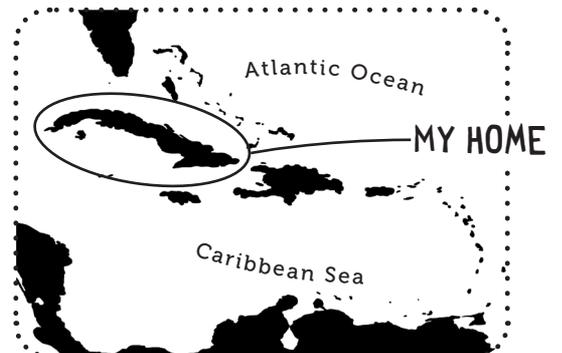
Cuban Tody *Todus multicolor*



17

FEATHERY FACTS

What's a Tody? It's a tiny bird living only in the Caribbean. Cubans called their Tody *Cartacuba*. It eats mostly insects. Its colours are bright green, pink, red, and blue. It makes its **nest** in a long tunnel underground. It has a huge appetite and can catch about 2 insects every minute all day long!



Black-crowned Palm-Tanager *Phaenicophilus palmarum*

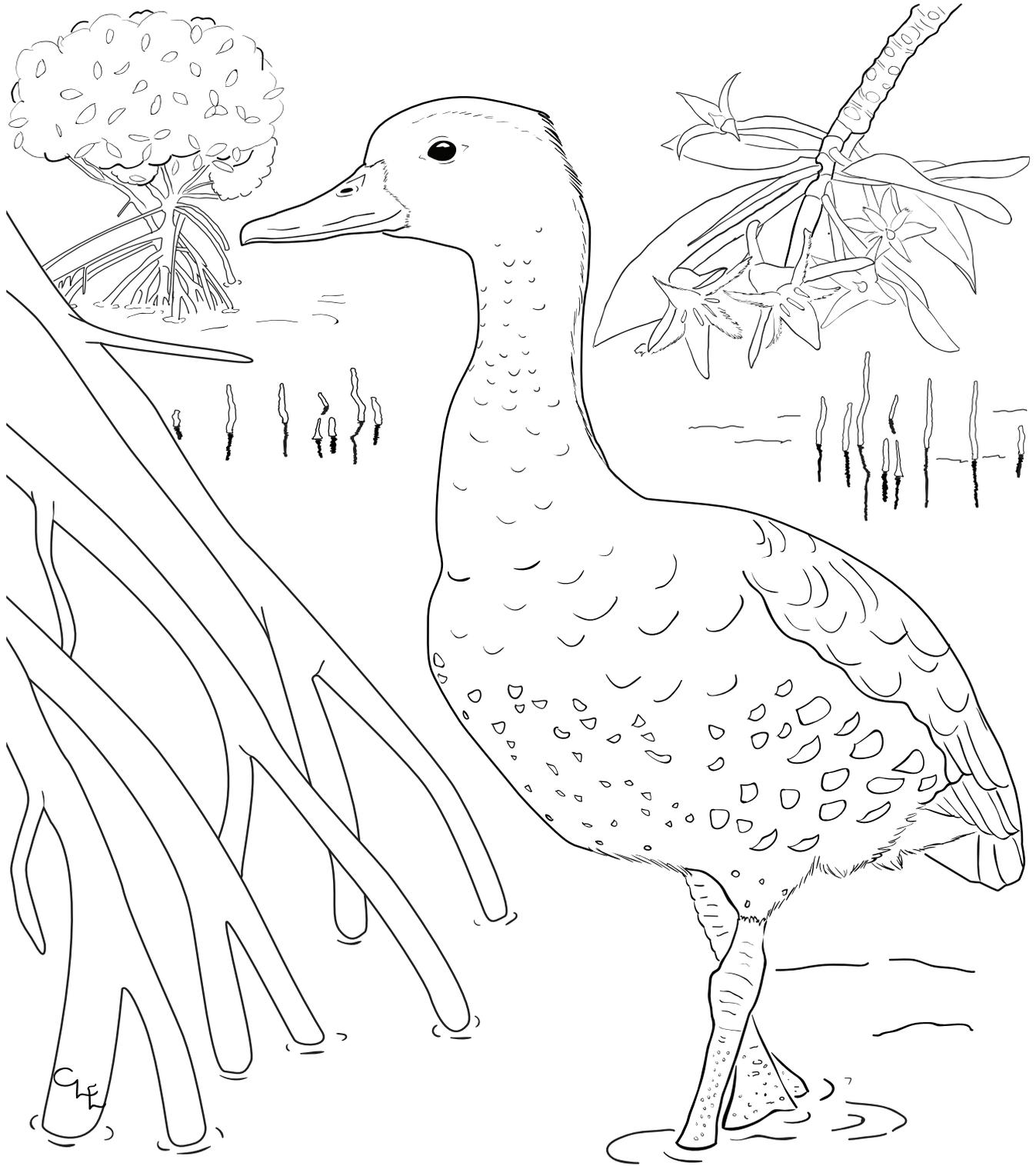


FEATHERY FACTS

The black on its head gives this bird its name, but it is also gray, white and yellow. It is only found on the island of Hispaniola. This bird lives all over the island in any **habitats** with trees. Its nickname in Spanish is *Quatro Ojos* which means "Four Eyes". Can you see how it got this nickname?



West Indian Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna arborea*



FEATHERY FACTS

These ducks live in many parts of the Caribbean, but they are not as common as they once were. They need **wetland** habitats like **mangroves** and ponds to survive, but many of these have been destroyed. They are mostly active at night. Sometimes they roost or nest in trees. Have you ever seen a duck in a tree?

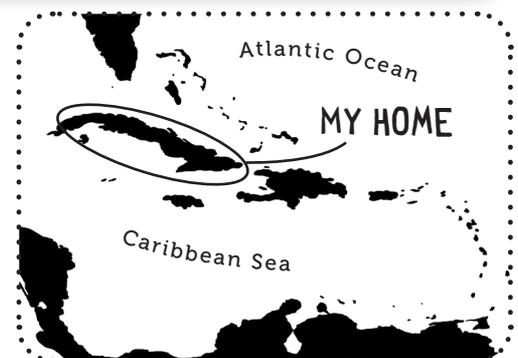


Zapata Sparrow *Torreornis inexpectata*



FEATHERY FACTS

This little bird is **endemic** to Cuba. It was discovered in 1927 in the Zapata Swamp. Since then, it was found in two other parts of Cuba. In each area, the sparrows look a little different. They also live in different kinds of **habitats** like grasslands, forests, and scrub.



Imperial Parrot *Amazona imperialis*

21

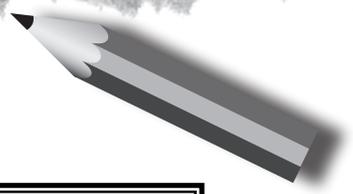


FEATHERY FACTS

The Imperial Parrot lives only on Dominica. There they call it the *Sisserou*. It is Dominica's national bird and is even on the country's flag. There may be less than 300 birds left; it is an **endangered species**. The people of Dominica are working to save them - this is called **conservation**.



Bridled Quail-Dove *Geotrygon mystacea*

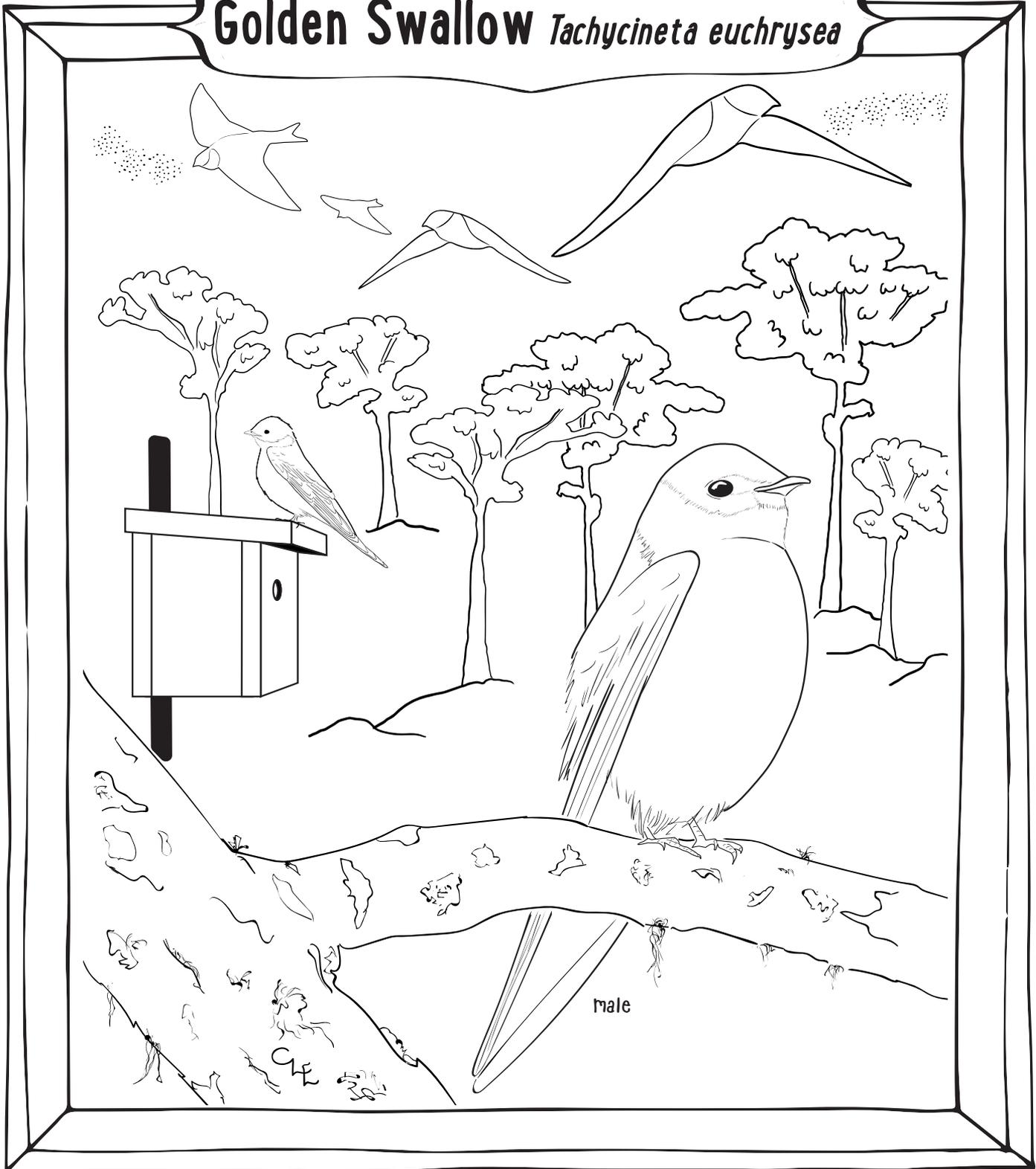


FEATHERY FACTS

If you are in the right place and walk quietly, you can hear this bird calling "who whooo." But it is much harder to see. It is usually on the forest floor or in low tree branches and it blends in with its surroundings. It eats mainly seeds and fruits, but sometimes gobbles up a gecko.



Golden Swallow *Tachycineta euchrysea*



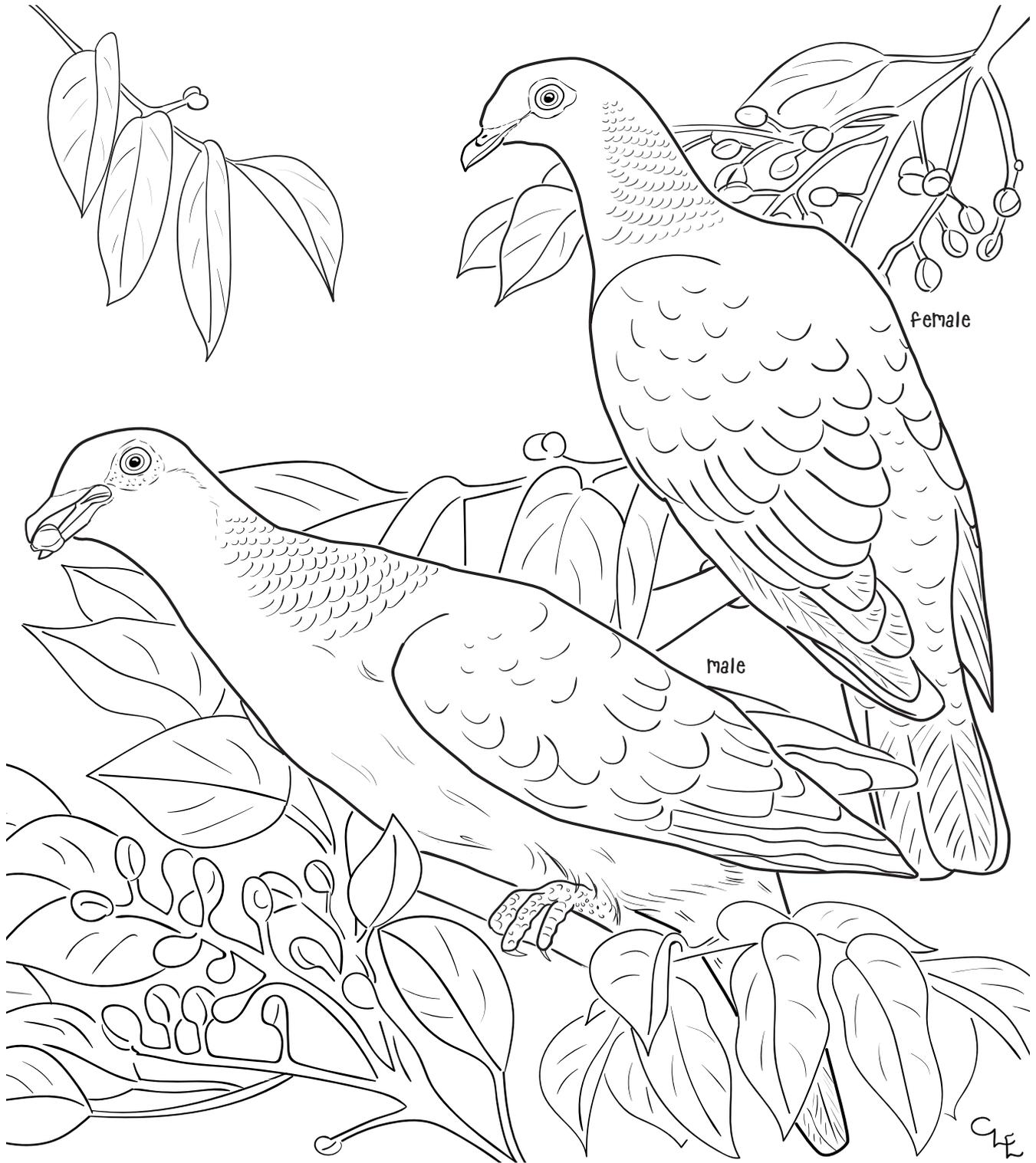
23

FEATHERY FACTS

Once upon a time, the Golden Swallow lived in Jamaica and Hispaniola, feeding on insects and nesting in caves. But no one has seen it in Jamaica for many years, and we probably never will again. Sometimes a bird lives on only one island because it is gone from everywhere else it used to live.

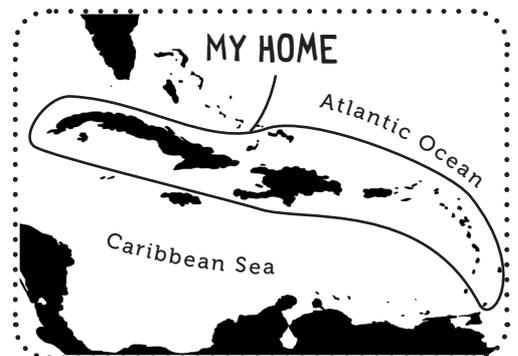


Scaly-naped Pigeon *Patagioenas squamosa*



FEATHERY FACTS

This pigeon has beautiful purple-red feathers on its head and neck that sparkle in the sun. The feathers on its **nape** look like fish scales, which is how it got its name. It lives in **forest** habitats, especially in the mountains. It eats fruit and seeds and makes a nest of twigs in a tree branch.



Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola*

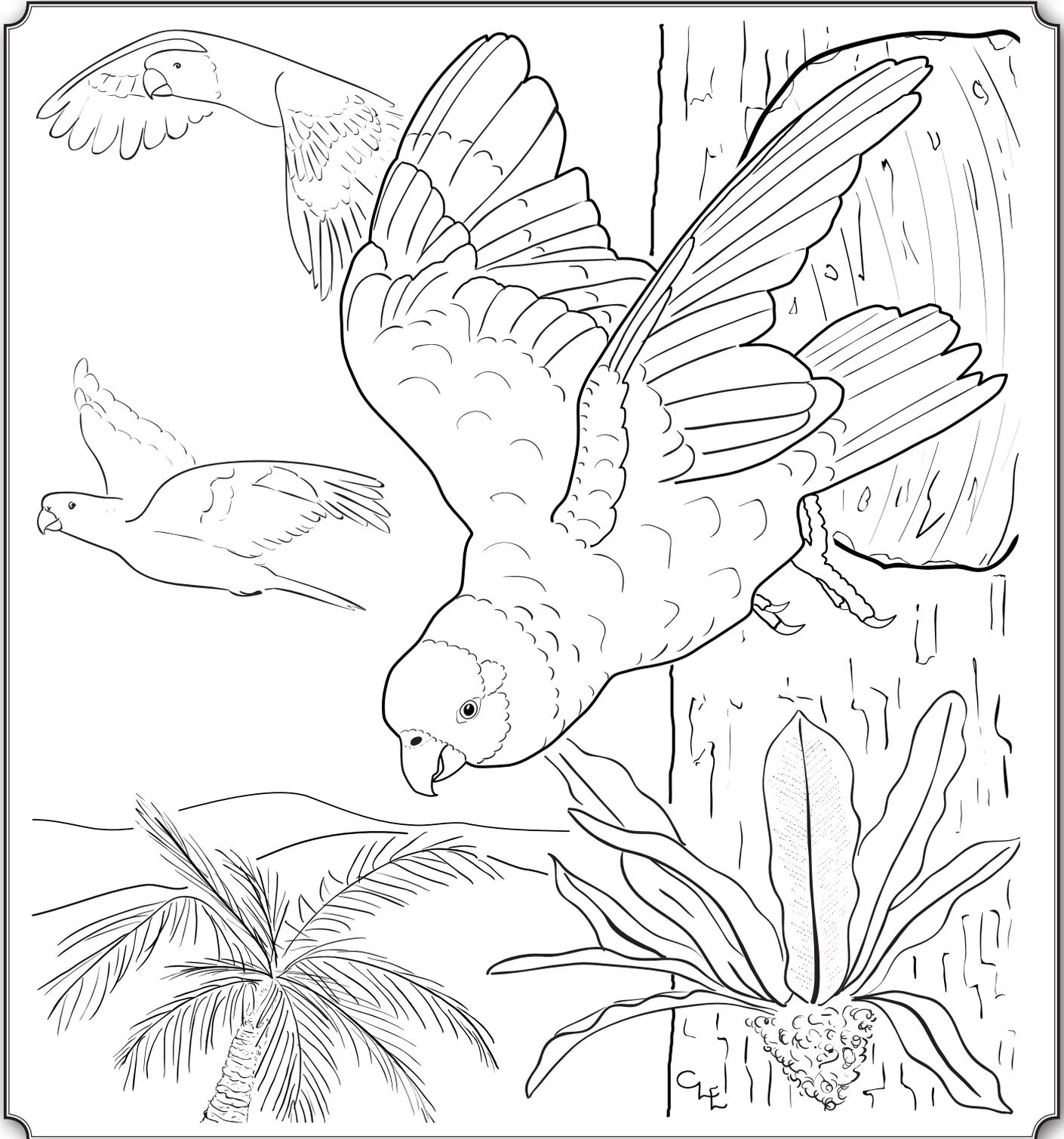


FEATHERY FACTS

The Bananaquit loves sugar so much that many people call it the Sugar Bird. In the wild, it gets sugar from flower **nectar**. But if you leave a bowl of sugar outside it will eat that, too. Bananaquits live all over the Caribbean, but on each island they look a bit different.



St. Vincent Parrot *Amazona guildingii*



26

FEATHERY FACTS

The St. Vincent Parrot is the national bird of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. It is very colourful with white, yellow, orange, brown, green, blue, and black feathers. Like most other parrots, it faces the threats of **habitat loss** and capture by people who want to sell it as a pet.



Western Spindalis *Spindalis zena*

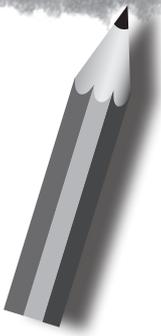
27



FEATHERY FACTS

This colourful songbird lives in The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands, Cuba, and the Cayman Islands. It mostly eats berries. It can live in different **habitats**, like pine forests, mountain forests, brushlands, and gardens. The male has bold stripes on its face; the female is more plain.





Cuban Grassquit *Tiaris canorus*



FEATHERY FACTS

The Cuban Grassquit is **endemic** to Cuba. The male has a black face ringed in bright yellow. It likes to live in dry areas where it can find its favorite food: small seeds. With a beautiful song and bright colours, many people want to keep these birds as pets. But we should allow wild birds to stay free.



Palmchat *Dulus dominicus*



29

FEATHERY FACTS

The national bird of the Dominican Republic is the Palmchat. It loves to nest in palm trees and is often seen in noisy flocks in treetops. They live in groups and even build their nests together. This is called **communal nesting**. Sometimes, 30 nests can be woven together in one structure.



Hispaniolan Lizard-Cuckoo *Coccyzus longirostris*

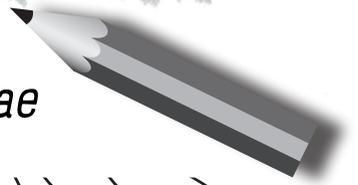


FEATHERY FACTS

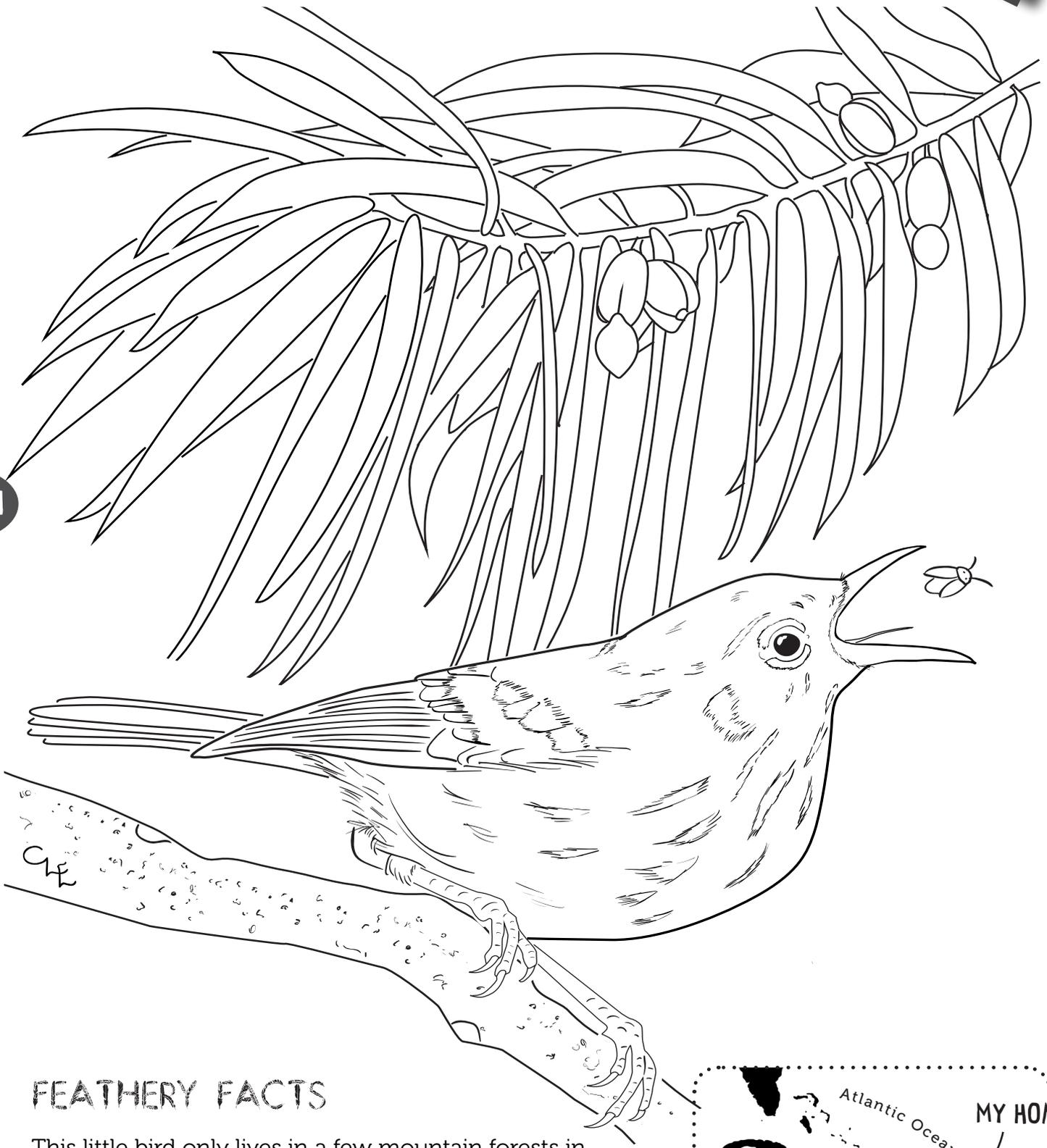
This bird has a very long tail and a curved beak. Its favorite foods are lizards and insects, which it chases around in the trees. You can find it in many different **habitats**, from gardens and farms to mountain **forests**.



Elfin-woods Warbler *Setophaga angelae*



31



FEATHERY FACTS

This little bird only lives in a few mountain forests in Puerto Rico. It actually wasn't discovered until 1969, long after most birds were already discovered. This rare bird feeds on insects. It often **flocks** together with other birds. This may explain how it remained undetected for so many years.



Crested Quail-Dove *Geotrygon versicolor*



32

FEATHERY FACTS

This shy and secretive bird lives only in Jamaica. It has many names there: Mountain Witch, Blue Dove and Blue Partridge. It bounces its head and bobs its tail as it walks along. On the forest floor, it finds seeds, fruits, and bugs to eat.



Jamaican Lizard-Cuckoo *Coccyzus vetula*



33

FEATHERY FACTS

This long-tailed bird runs along branches in trees looking for lizards, large insects, and even baby birds to eat. It has a red ring around its eye. Even though it is big and colourful, it can be hard to see because it stays hidden in lower branches. In Jamaica, people call it Old Woman Bird.



White-breasted Thrasher *Ramphocinclus brachyurus*

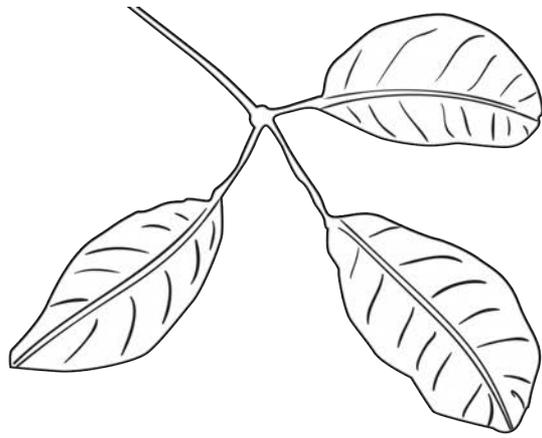


FEATHERY FACTS

These birds like to work together. After young birds learn to fly, they will stay in the area and help their parents raise the next batch of **chicks**. This is called **cooperative breeding**. They also make loud chattering alarm calls to warn each other of danger.



Cuban Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium siju*



35

FEATHERY FACTS

These owls are one of the smallest in the world. They are **endemic** to Cuba and found all over the island. Unlike some owls, Cuban Pygmy-Owls are often seen and heard during the day. They also nest in tree **cavities**, where they have three or four **chicks** called owlets.



Cuban Trogon *Priotelus temnurus*



FEATHERY FACTS

The Cuban Trogon is the national bird of Cuba. It is red, white, and blue, like the Cuban flag. It has a long tail with an unusual shape. Instead of building its own **nest**, it uses **cavities** made by woodpeckers. In Cuba they call it *Tocororo*. Its call sounds like its Spanish name: toc-toc tororororoooo



Puerto Rican Woodpecker *Melanerpes portoricensis*

37



FEATHERY FACTS

You might find the Puerto Rican Woodpecker anywhere where there are trees in Puerto Rico. Like other woodpeckers, they drill holes into trees to find insects. Unlike most woodpeckers, they also eat fruit. This bird has a bright red throat and breast, black back, and white forehead.



Puerto Rican Parrot *Amazona vittata*



FEATHERY FACTS

Once Puerto Rican Parrots were common. Now they are very rare—an **endangered species**. They face many dangers like hurricanes, **habitat loss** and capture to keep as pets. There were as few as 13 in the wild. Because of **conservation**, today there are more, but still less than 100 flying free.



Purple-throated Carib *Eulampis jugularis*



39

FEATHERY FACTS

This large hummingbird lives in mountain **forests**. Males and females have the same colours, but different **bill** shapes. Males have a smaller, straighter bill and females have a longer, more curved bill. Both drink **nectar**, but they feed from different flowers that fit the shapes of their bills.



Sad Flycatcher *Myiarchus barbirostris*



40

FEATHERY FACTS

The Sad Flycatcher is **endemic** to Jamaica, it can only be found there. Jamaicans call it Little Tom Fool because it tends not to move even when people get close. It usually perches in an open area, flying out to catch flying bugs and beetles. It also eats small fruits.



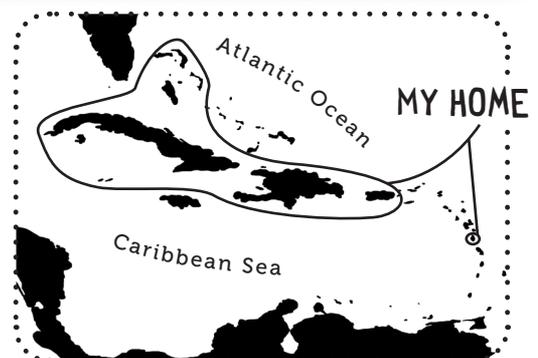
Red-legged Thrush *Turdus plumbeus*

41



FEATHERY FACTS

The Red-legged Thrush has red legs, but it also has a red **bill** and red eyes. It eats many different things, like seeds, berries, and insects. It protects its **nest** by flying at anything—or anyone—that comes near it. It is often seen hopping on the ground with its tail held upwards.



Puerto Rican Bullfinch *Melopyrrha portoricensis*



FEATHERY FACTS

The Puerto Rican Bullfinch is called *Comeñame* in Spanish. This bird lives only in Puerto Rico, but it has some "cousins" living on other Caribbean islands. If the same **species** of bird lives on different islands, they can change over time until they become unique species. This is called **evolution**.



Streamertail *Trochilus polytmus*



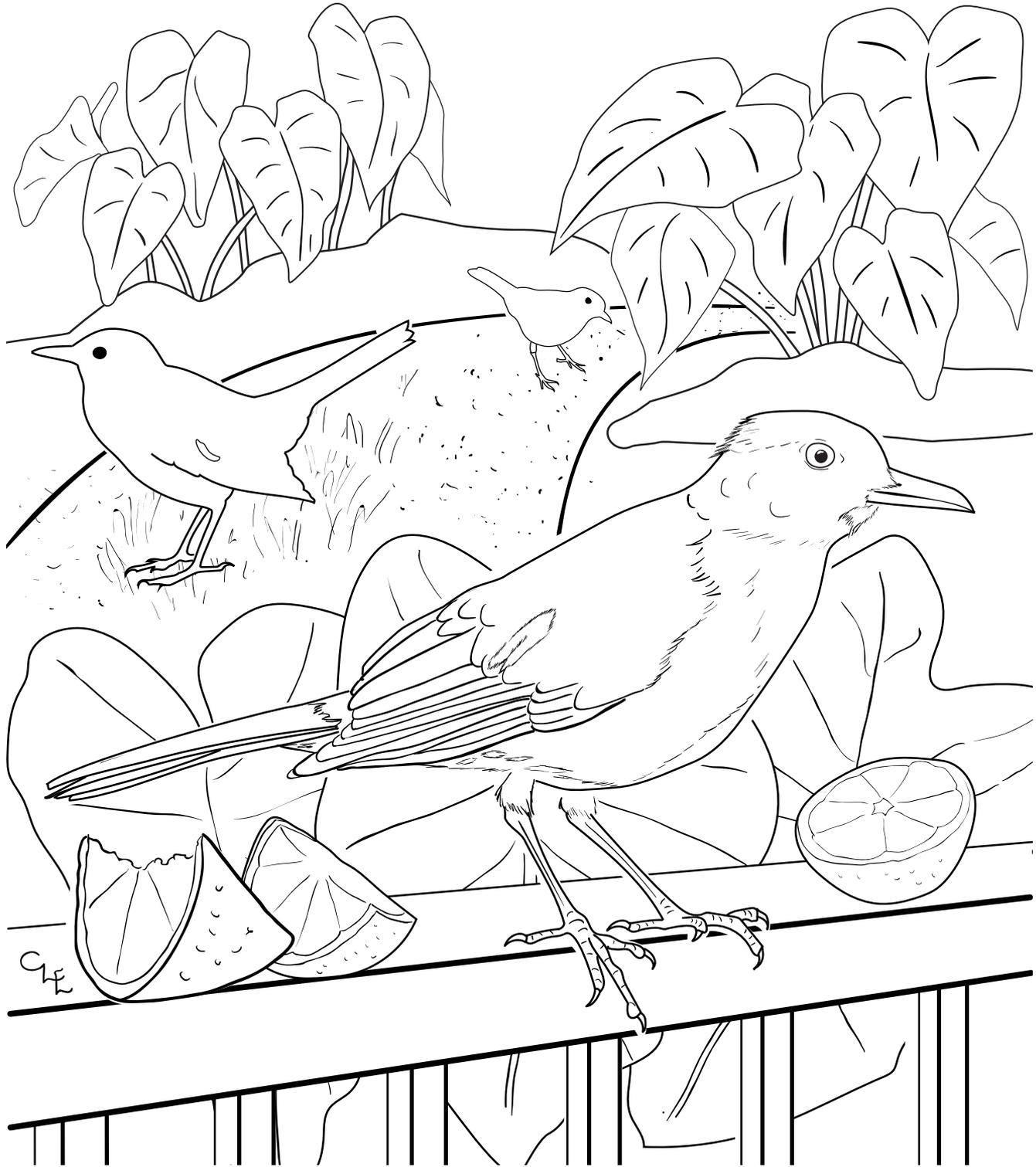
43

FEATHERY FACTS

This shiny green hummingbird lives only in Jamaica, where it is called Doctor Bird. The male has a very long tail—much longer than his body! It got its name from its black head and long tail, like an old-fashioned doctor. Its **nest**, built by the female, is a tiny cup. It is the national bird of Jamaica.



White-chinned Thrush *Turdus aurantius*



44

FEATHERY FACTS

Living only in Jamaica, this bird is called the Chick-man-Chick because of its call. Its other local name is Hopping Dick. It hops along the edges of country roads or flower beds looking for insects, lizards, and frogs to eat. It has a bright orange **bill** and legs. It's an easy bird to spot!



Montserrat Oriole *Icterus oberi*



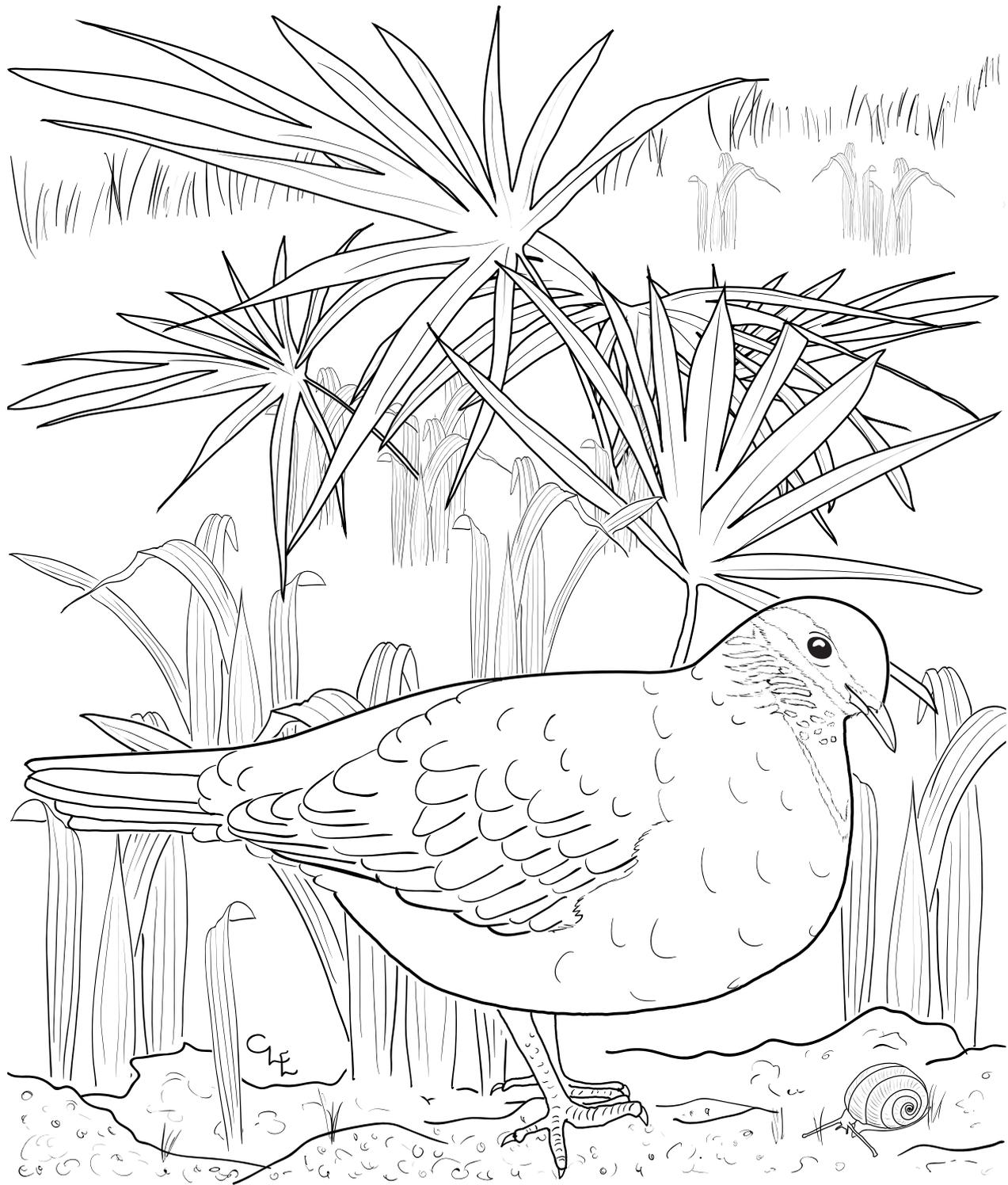
45

FEATHERY FACTS

A bright black and yellow bird, this oriole is **endemic** to Montserrat. It is their national bird, but it is also threatened with **extinction**. Since 1995, volcanic eruptions on Montserrat have destroyed much of the **forest** that these birds live in. The female builds a nifty hanging basket nest.

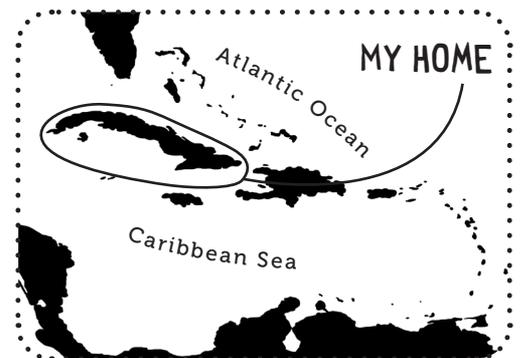


Blue-headed Quail-Dove *Starnoenas cyanocephala*



FEATHERY FACTS

This dove is **endemic** to Cuba meaning it only lives in Cuba. It walks around on the forest floor, where it finds fruits, seeds, and insects to eat. The top of its head is bright blue. These doves usually travel in pairs, but sometimes you can see them in larger groups.



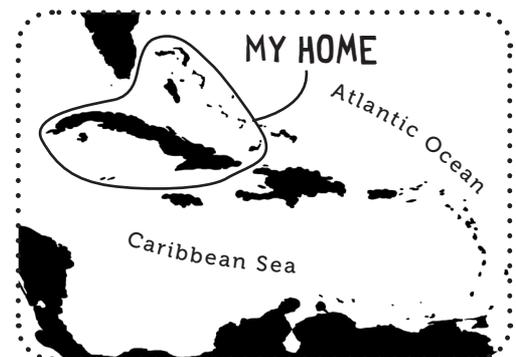
Cuban Parrot *Amazona leucocephala*



47

FEATHERY FACTS

The Cuban Parrot lives in Cuba, but also in the Cayman Islands and The Bahamas. In The Bahamas, they call it the Bahama Parrot and in the Cayman Islands it's called the Cayman Parrot. It is mostly green, but has white on its head and pink on its throat. They love to eat fruit and make a lot of noise.



Yellow-billed Parrot *Amazona collaria*

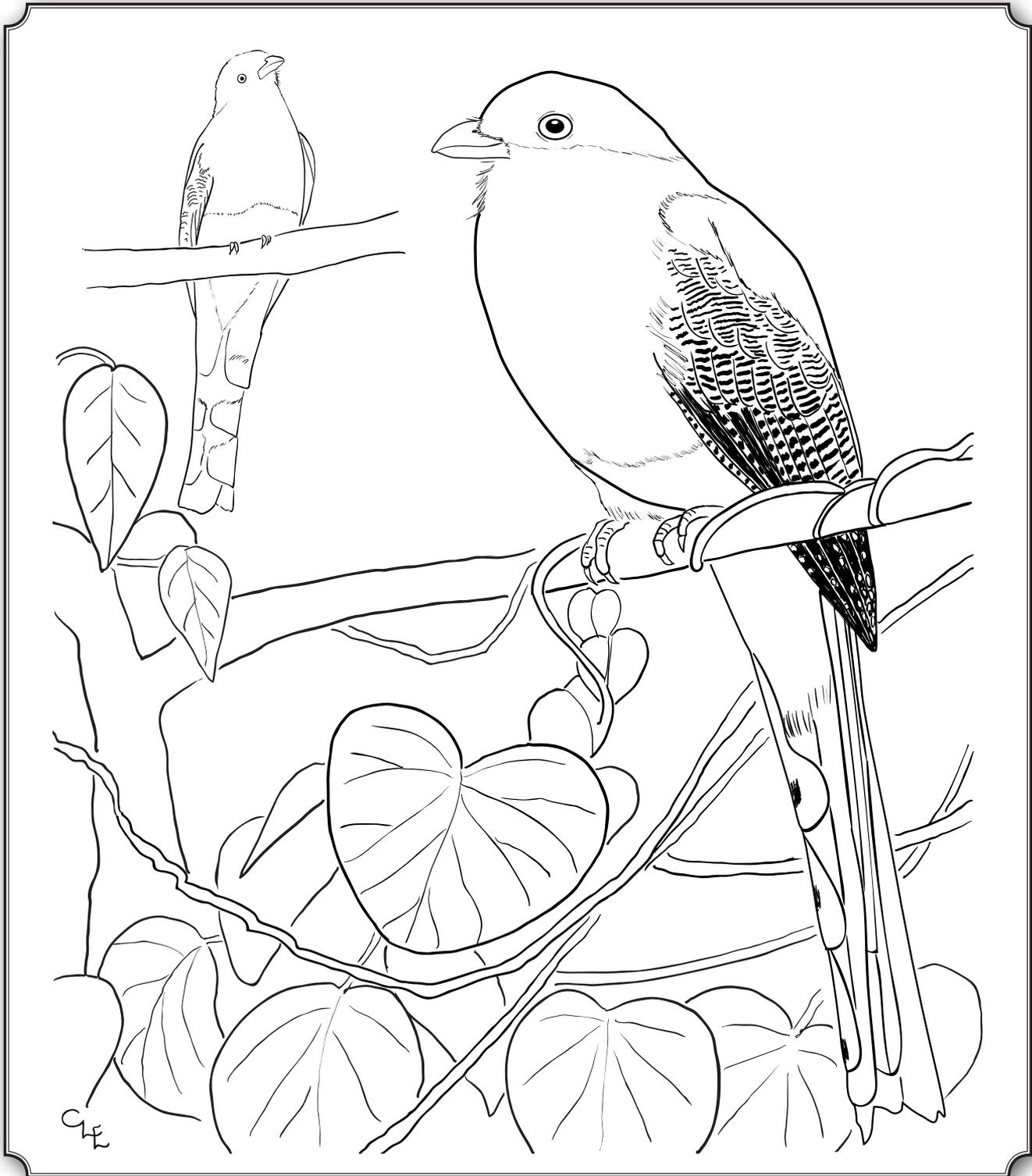


FEATHERY FACTS

The Yellow-billed Parrot lives only in Jamaica. It nests in **cavities** in large trees in mountain **forests**, but it will fly to other places to find fruit or other food it likes. There are only a few forests left where it can nest. Without them, this beautiful bird won't survive.



Hispaniolan Trogon *Priotelus roseigaster*



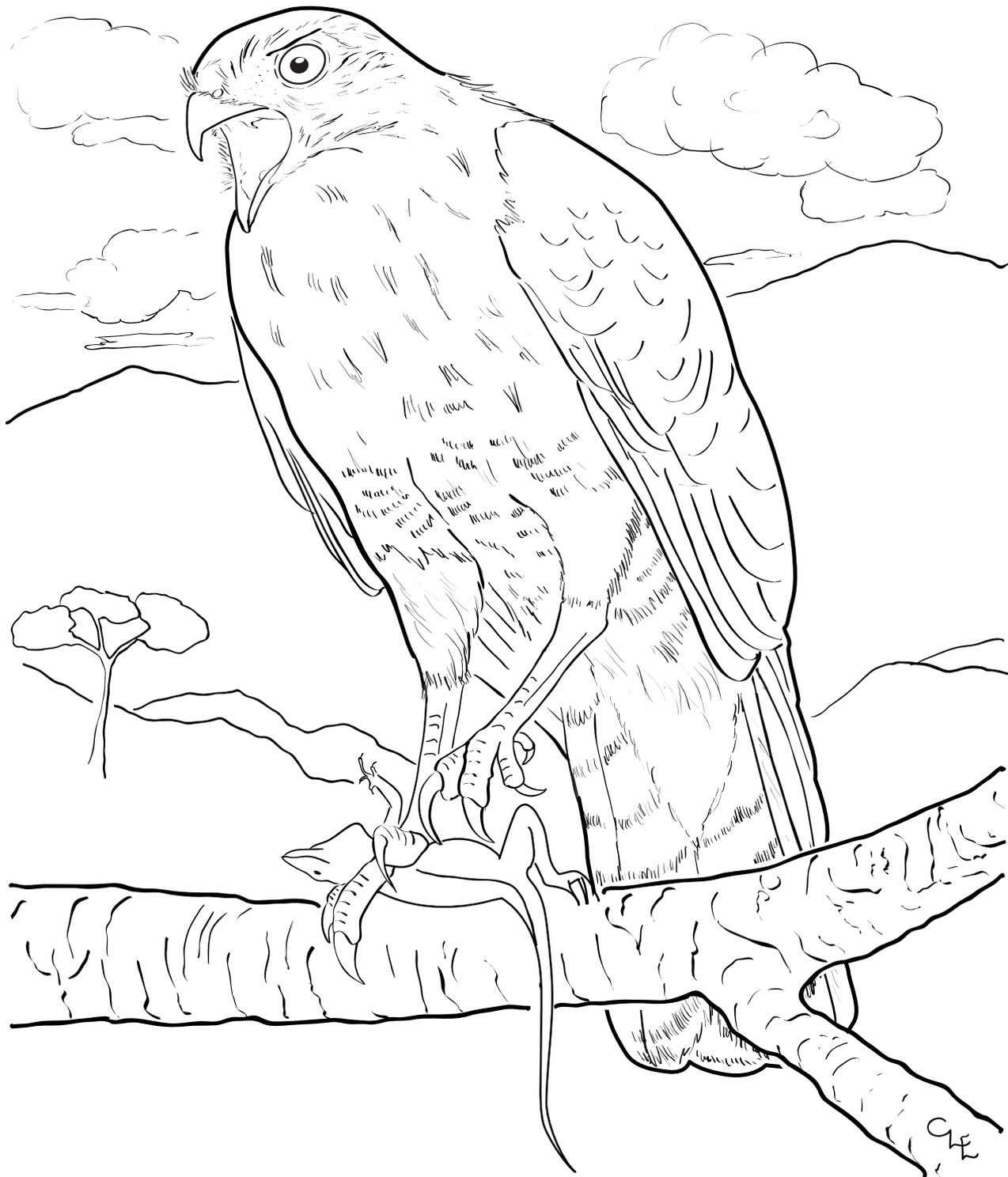
49

FEATHERY FACTS

The Hispaniolan Trogon is the national bird of Haiti and **endemic** to the island of Hispaniola. In Haiti, they call it *Kanson Wouj*. It has a green back, a red belly, and a long blue and white tail. It mostly lives in the mountains where there are **forest** habitats.



Ridgway's Hawk *Buteo ridgwayi*

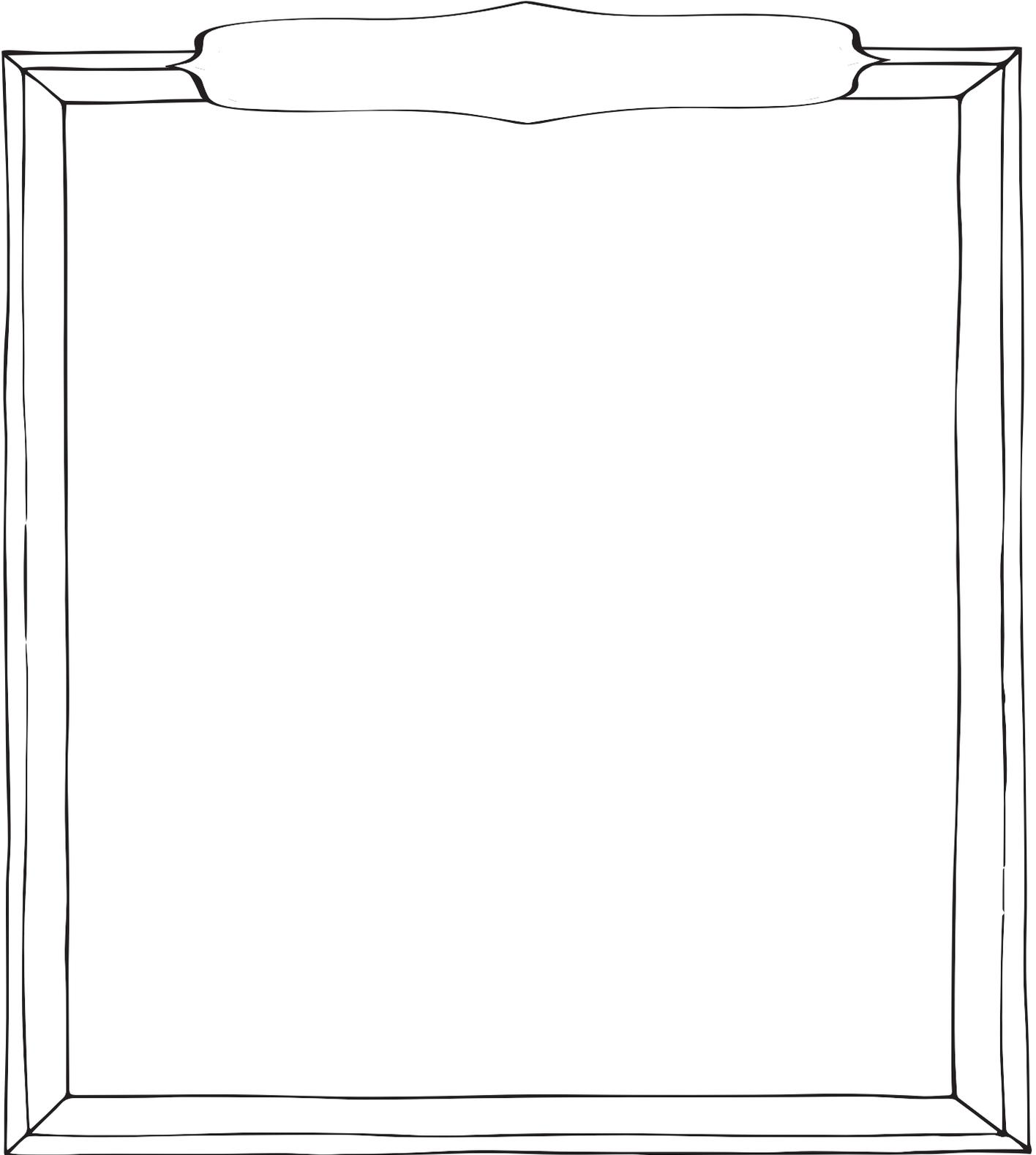


FEATHERY FACTS

This beautiful hawk has broad wings and a tail that fans out. It is **endemic** to Hispaniola and an **endangered species**. Only a few hundred live in the wild, mostly in the Dominican Republic. People are working hard to save this hawk. If an animal becomes **extinct**, it will never be seen again.



Create your own bird colouring pages for your favourite bird! Or draw an imaginary bird!



FEATHERY FACTS

.....

.....

.....

.....

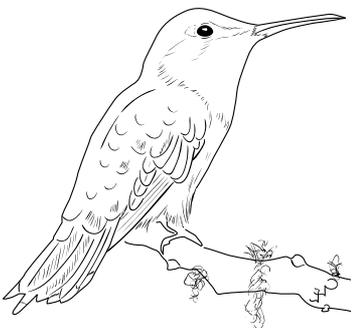
.....



Word Search

Find the glossary words listed below. Words can be horizontal, vertical, diagonal and backwards.

e d z h i d a n x e t f
n t n a p e g a l v i o
c e a p z s x l h o c r
h h s n i d i t c r s e
n t a t i b a h i g e s
n o i t u l o v e n i t
c h i c k h l r m a c s
w e t l a n d o q m e t
k c o l f v x x p w p s
r a t c e n i p c h s o
y v c o q q n t e p s o
e n d e m i c v y x m r



bill

cavity

chick

endemic

evolution

extinct

flock

forests

habitat

mangrove

nape

nectar

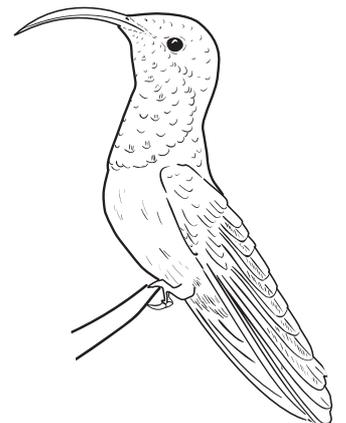
nest

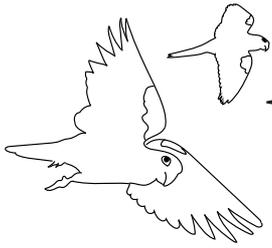
pollinate

roost

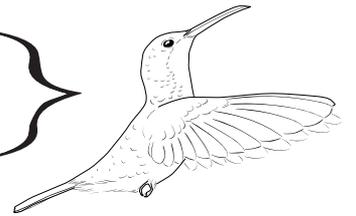
species

wetland



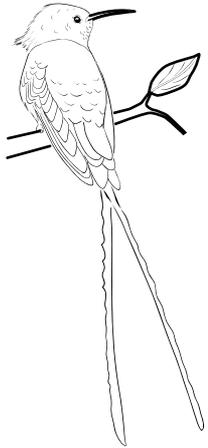


Poetry in Motion



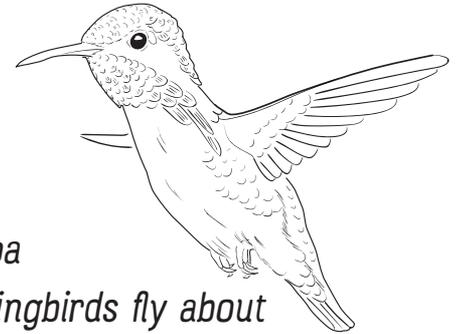
Haiku

Japanese haiku is a form of poetry with only three lines. The first line contains five syllables, the second line has seven, and the third line with five, expresses surprise or discovery .



For example:

*Doctor Bird flies fast
To come visit his patient
Which is a flower*



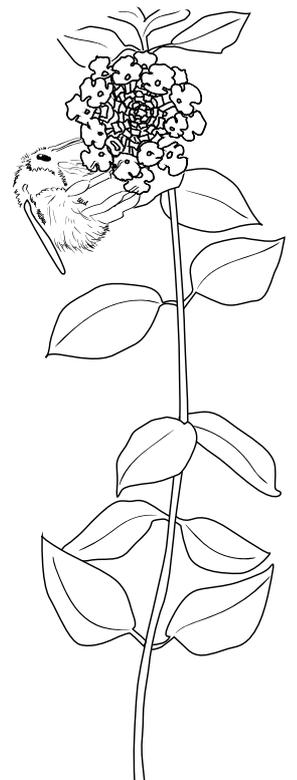
*Only in Cuba
Bee Hummingbirds fly about
The world's smallest bird*

Windsparks

- Line 1: "I dreamed"
- Line 2: "I was" (someone or something)
- Line 3: Where
- Line 4: Action
- Line 5: How

For example:

*I dreamed
I was a Sad Flycatcher
Out on a branch alone
Watching
Hungrily*





Vertical Poem

Choose a word that captures your feelings, and use the first letter of the word to begin each line of your poem. For example:

E _____
N _____
D _____
E _____
M _____
I _____
C _____

Cinquain

Cinquains have five lines, which follow a set formula:

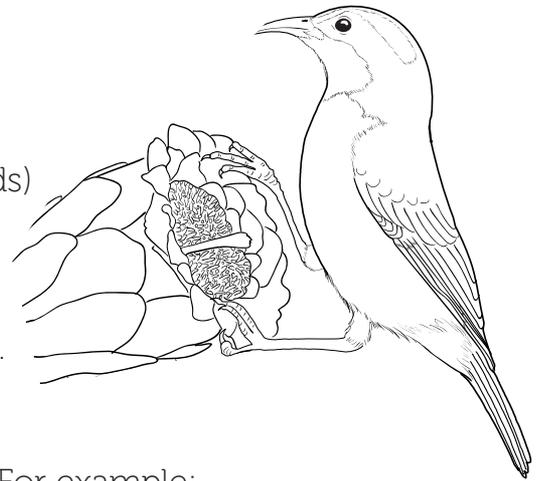
Line 1: The title in 2 syllables (or 2 words)

Line 2: The description of the title in 4 syllables (or 4 words)

Line 3: A description of an action related to the title
(6 syllables or 6 words)

Line 4: A description of feelings (8 syllables or 8 words)

Line 5: Another word for the title in 2 syllables or 2 words.



For example:

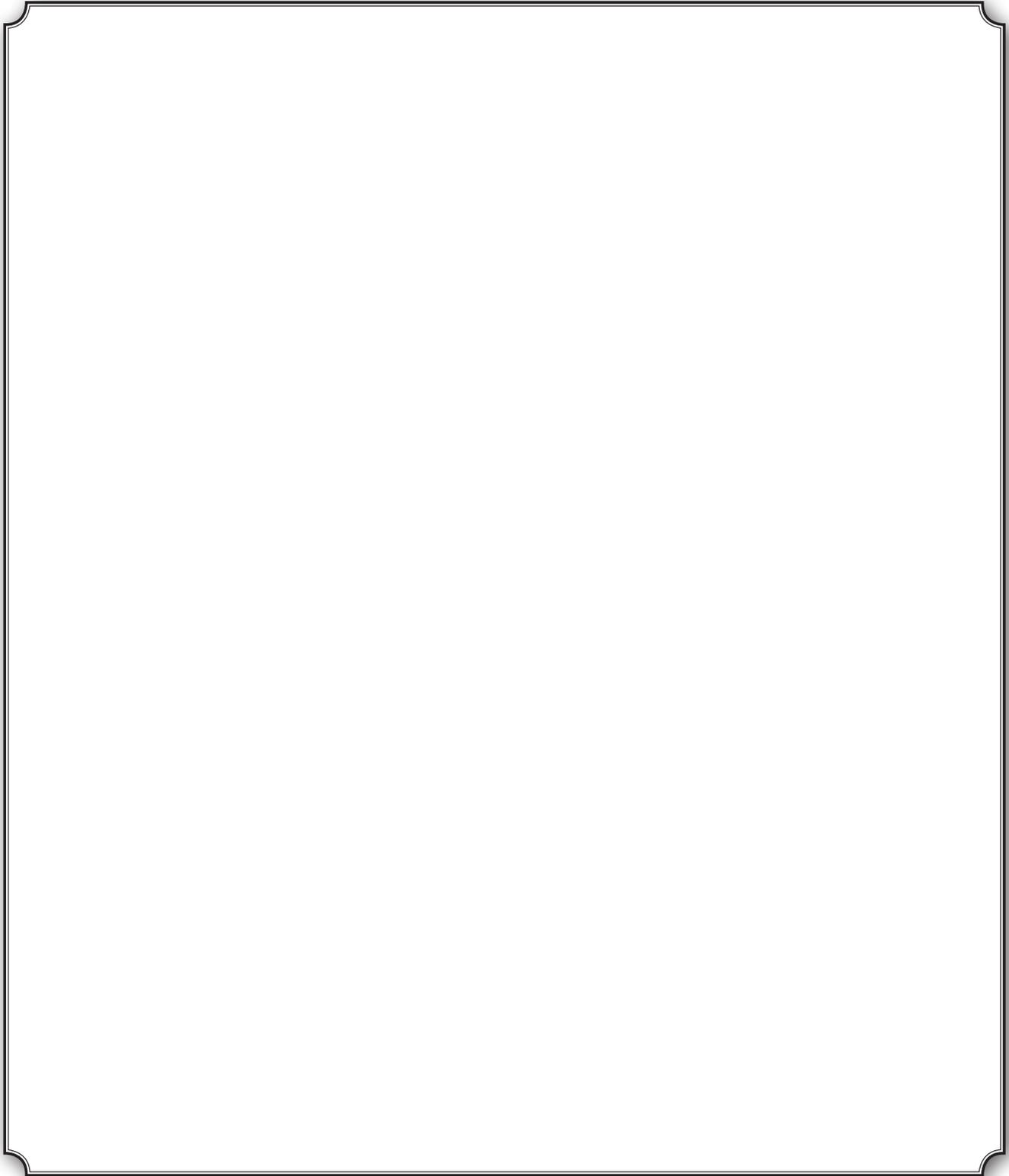
Little Bananaquit

Hungry yellow-breasted bird

Flying from one flower to another

I love it when you come to me

Sugar bird



FEATHERY FACTS

.....

.....

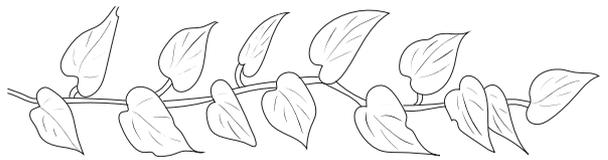
.....

.....

.....



Bird Identification Quiz!



Can you identify these birds by their shapes?

Many birds can be recognized by their size, the way they stand or fly, or the shape of their body parts. Depending on the light, sometimes all you can see is the outlined shape of a bird- this is called a silhouette.

Try to notice any clues about these silhouettes that may help you figure out what type of bird they are.

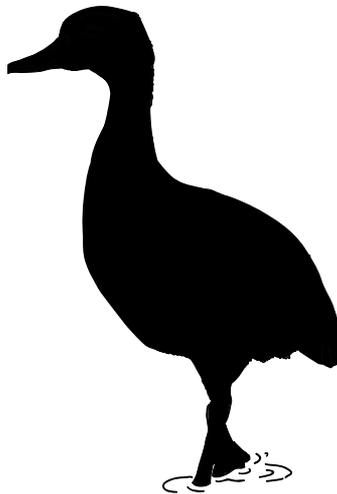
- Whistling-Duck
- Parrot
- Thrush
- Woodpecker
- Owl
- Hummingbird

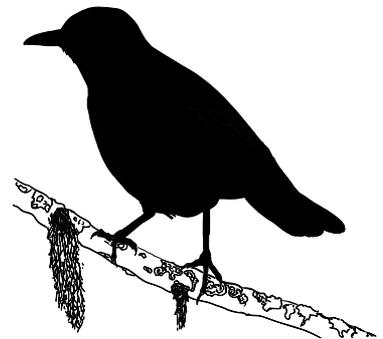












Glossary

bill ... The hard parts of the mouth of the bird, sometimes called a beak.

cavity ... An empty space inside a solid object, like a hole in a tree.

chick ... A young bird, especially one that is newly hatched.

communal nesting ... Occurs when more than one pair of birds builds their nests together in the same place.

conservation ... The protection and wise use of natural resources (including plants and animals and their habitats).

cooperative breeding ... Occurs in birds when chicks are raised not just by their parents, but their brothers and sisters and other relatives.

endangered species ... Species whose total population is declining to low numbers such that, if the decline continues, it will result in extinction.

endemic ... A species found only in a particular place. For example, one island (like Guadeloupe) or a group of islands (like the Lesser Antilles).

evolution ... A very slow process that results in one species giving rise to others that are better adapted to the places where they live.

extinct ... When there are no more left in the wild.

flock ... A group of birds of one kind feeding, resting, or traveling together.

forests ... A large area covered by trees. There are many types of forests like wet and dry forests (which receive different amounts of rain), montane forests (in the mountains), and mangrove forests (which are made up of mangrove trees).

habitat ... The place where a plant or animal lives. Good habitats provide the weather conditions, food, and cover that they need to live and breed.

habitat loss ... Occurs when the place where an animal or plant lives is destroyed or extremely changed. For example, habitat loss of forests happens when the trees are cut down and the land is used for something else, like farming or building homes or businesses.

mangrove ... Tropical and sub-tropical trees that grow in saltwater.

nape ... The back of the neck.

native species ... A species that occurs naturally in an area.

nectar ... A sugary liquid that comes from plants, usually inside the flower.

nest ... A structure or place that a bird uses for laying eggs and raising chicks.

non-native species ... A species that has been brought into a geographical area where it never lived before. They are also called introduced, exotic or alien invasive species and they often harm local species by taking over their habitats or preying on them.

pollinate ... The process that allows plants to reproduce (have babies).

roost ... A place where birds regularly rest.

species ... A group of the same kind of animal (or plant) that shares common traits like size, color, habitat, and even the sounds they make.

wetland ... Places that are wet, soggy or flooded by fresh or salt water permanently or from time to time. They include mangroves, swamps, ponds, lagoons, marshes, and mudflats.