

Bald Eagle



Haliaeetus leucocephalus

Why is this bird named the bald eagle? Its feathers on its head? In this case, the word "bald" comes from the old English word "beald" which means to be without. It's a hawk with black and white feathers. It's a symbol of strength and courage.

Great Blue Heron



Ardea herodias

Baby herons grow up in huge nests about the size of a large adult sitting on the floor, holding their heads to their chest. Try it out! A nest with one parent is usually built in a tree, but many, many, many nests are built in the mud. Feeding time is very noisy when the parents' stomachs are full!

Red-breasted Sapsucker



Sphyrapicus ruber

Have you ever seen a hole drilled, row of holes in a tree trunk and wondered who made them? It's the sapsucker! They drill these holes to make sap wells where sticky "tree juice" can flow. Then they eat the sticky sap and any bugs that have gotten stuck in it. An extra treat!

Northern Saw-whet Owl



Anguiscus acadicus

The current owl in the forest, northern saw-whets are found across Canada, BC is also Queen Charlotte Islands. This owl is smaller than its mainland cousin. It stays on the ground.

Osprey



Pandion haliaetus

How big is an osprey's nest? Just hands with an adult to make a circle. This circle is about the same distance across as their feet. Using sticks, twigs and then lined with softer bark and grasses. Can you imagine how big that is?

Red-breasted Nuthatch



Sitta canadensis

Why put "glue" at your front? That sticky resin cap around the nest opening in a tree trunk keeps predators from getting their claws into the nest holes without touching the edges.

Steller's Jay



Cyanocitta stelleri

Be careful not to leave any food on the picnic table with this cheeky jay around! This bird eats everything from berries to nuts to eggs of other birds. Although usually noisy, they are quiet at night to keep their babies safe.

Turkey Vulture



Cathartes aura

Imagine a bird that tricks its head into dead animals and has a smell! Ewwwww! The vulture is a big part of Mother Nature's clean-up crew and is well suited to it. It has a naked head that is easy to clean and covered in scales to help it breathe while in those sloppy feeding places. But don't get too close while they're feeding, they might projectile vomit on you!

Tufted Puffin



Fratercula cirrhata

Tufted puffins have waterproof feathers and can swim underwater - all spring through the winter at sea. In spring, they burgle back to make their nests on the Queen Charlotte Islands, a small island off the northern tip of Vancouver Island.

Western Meadowlark



Sturnella neglecta

Did you know that the black "V" on the meadowlark's chest is to remind us of its fantastic to them, but the grasslands would be a much livelier place without the regular meadowlark concerts that are performed from the top of fence posts and small shrubs.

American Osprey



Circus mexicanus

Up, Dip, don't up. The osprey gets its habit of bending and straggling? Can you try to get a dipping motion. Can you try to get a dipping motion. Why they dip but whenever hearing, ospreys are dipping when they might dip as many as 60 times.

Belted Kingfisher



Ceryle alcyon

With their wild blue colour, huge head and spiky crest of feathers, the belted kingfisher definitely has a one-of-a-kind look! The girls are even stronger than the boys. A heavy bill and sharp talons are also useful for catching fish.

How to Play

Old Maid - British Columbia can be played with 2-8 players. The goal of the game is to collect pairs of birds and avoid having the single Turkey Vulture (Old Maid) card in your hand at the end of the game. Start by shuffling or mixing up the cards. Now deal or pick cards until all the cards are distributed. It's okay if some players have one more card than others. Each player then takes out any pairs of birds that they're holding and puts the pairs face up in front of themselves if you have 3 of the same kind, remove 2 and keep the third. **How:** If you're playing with small children you may want to reduce the deck to pairs of birds, rather than 3 of a kind, so there aren't as many cards to hold. Don't forget to include the Turkey Vulture card! The game starts with the dealer offering their hand of cards. **Deal:** Deal to the player on their left. Let's assume it's your turn. Choose one card from the dealer's hand. If you pick a card that matches any other card in your hand, lay the pair face up in front of you. If the card you picked doesn't match a pair, your turn ends. Now it's your turn to offer your hand. Deal three to the player on your left. Deal...

Bohemian Waxwing



Bombycillus garrulus

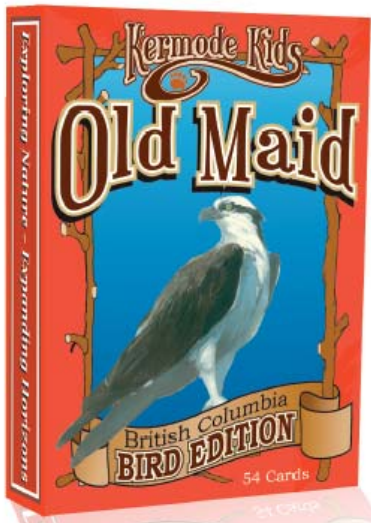
Who wears a mask and flies through the air, the Bohemian waxwing, of course! "super-birds" who feed berry bushes across BC, are also great at flying back at their old, gossamer wings, until, finally, in...

Marbled Murrelet



Brachyramphus marmoratus

Nests of the mysterious marbled murrelet are really hard to find. Even though more than 50,000 birds live here, the first nest in British Columbia was not found until 1990. These high in old growth trees, they need to be searched to keep these birds in BC.



Old Maid British Columbia ~ Bird Edition ~

Which bird uses swim goggles to see underwater? And who puts glue at their door to keep unwanted guests out? Find out by playing Old Maid British Columbia featuring 14 members of British Columbia's bird community. With 14 vibrant illustrations by a BC artist and 27 memorable fun-facts written by BC biologists, this card game will be a hit with adults and children alike. Each deck includes a "How to Play" card.



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