BIRD SCAVENGER HUNT

Can you solve these riddles to reveal the local birds they describe? Come visit California Botanic Garden during the month of February and take a walk along the Mesa Loop Trail to find the posted answers. Be sure to make note of the highlighted letters in each answer. Collect them all in the box below and unscramble them to reveal the name of the mystery bird.

Using my curved bill to search for insects and seed, The chaparral is perfect for everything I need Like my cousin, the mockingbird, I am quite the songster Some may say the calls I make are those of an imposter

My strong beak can crack acorns, my favorite food Some may say I have an assertive mood My movements are just as bold as my feathers are blue I am often perched on a branch for a better view

Circling above in the sky so high My red tail helps direct how I fly As I soar with a keen eye on the ground Searching for prey yet to be found

You will often see me scratching in the dirt To my mates call, I am always alert My brown feathers may not always stand out But if you are patient you'll spot me, no doubt!

You may know me for the plume atop my head, Often dashing across the road, but do not be misled A roadrunner I am not, my fate is much too great I gladly represent this beautiful golden state

My small grey and black body may be slight As my habitat is shrinking, please understand my plight A friend to humans, I catch insects in midflight As my long black tail feathers flitter with delight.

You can solve these riddles to reveal the local birds they describe. Come visit California Botanic Garden during the month of February and take a walk along the Mesa Loop Trail to find the posted answers. Be sure to make note of the highlighted letters in each answer. Collect them all in the box below and unscramble them to reveal the name of the mystery bird.

Mystery Bird Letters Collection

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

I am the largest bird in North America with a wingspan of about 9 feet wide! Who am I?

--- --- --- --- --- --- --- ---

--- --- --- --- --- --- --- ---

Birds need water for drinking and for bathing. Having a shallow water feature is a great way to attract local birds and observe their behaviors. Stop by one of our observation stations at the Garden and see how many birds visit these water features. If you can identify them, write their names below. If not, describe what the bird looks like: its size, color, movement, calls, and beak shape. You can also keep a simple tally or simply sit back and enjoy the act of birdwatching!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mountain Stream Garden</th>
<th>Water-wise Garden</th>
<th>Sage Garden</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As you walk through the Garden, see how many of these bird friendly plants you can find. Each plant has a special sign to help you identify them. Can you find them all?

**I SPY**

**SoCal Gardens**

**Sticky monkeyflower**  
*Diplacus aurantiacus*

I am a perennial flowering plant whose flowers come in many colors, most commonly orange. Hummingbirds visit my flowers for nectar and help with pollination.

**Catalina Currant**  
*Ribes viburnifolium*

I am an evergreen plant with red flowers that turn into bright red fruit. Many birds, like the California towhee and California thrasher, like to eat my berries.

**California Fan palm**  
*Washingtonia filifera*

I am the only native palm tree to California. Barn owls often nest in my skirt. Hooded orioles also make impressive hanging nests on the underside of my fronds.

**California sagebrush**  
*Artemisia californica*

I am a common shrub of the chaparral, many birds use my branches for cover, nesting or to perch. The California quail also likes to eat my seeds.

**Coastal redwood**  
*Sequoia sempervirens*

I am known for being the tallest trees on Earth. My branches provide places for many birds, like the spotted owl, to nest.

**Catalina Island mountain mahogany**  
*Cercocarpus traskiae*

I am a very rare and endangered plant native to Catalina Island. Birds like the blue grouse like to eat my seeds.

**Fragrant pitcher sage**  
*Lepechinia fragrans*

I get my name because of my very pleasant fragrance. You will often see hummingbirds visit my flowers for their nectar.

**Toyon**  
*Heteromeles arbutifolia*

I am a perennial shrub that produces red berries in winter. Many birds, like the American robin and western bluebird, feast on my fruit.

**I SPY**

**Mesa Gardens**

**Fragrant pitcher sage**  
*Lepechinia fragrans*

I get my name because of my very pleasant fragrance. You will often see hummingbirds visit my flowers for their nectar.

**Coastal redwood**  
*Sequoia sempervirens*

I am known for being the tallest trees on Earth. My branches provide places for many birds, like the spotted owl, to nest.

**Catalina Island mountain mahogany**  
*Cercocarpus traskiae*

I am a very rare and endangered plant native to Catalina Island. Birds like the blue grouse like to eat my seeds.

**I SPY**

**SoCal Gardens**

**Sticky monkeyflower**  
*Diplacus aurantiacus*

I am a perennial flowering plant whose flowers come in many colors, most commonly orange. Hummingbirds visit my flowers for nectar and help with pollination.

**Catalina Currant**  
*Ribes viburnifolium*

I am an evergreen plant with red flowers that turn into bright red fruit. Many birds, like the California towhee and California thrasher, like to eat my berries.

**California Fan palm**  
*Washingtonia filifera*

I am the only native palm tree to California. Barn owls often nest in my skirt. Hooded orioles also make impressive hanging nests on the underside of my fronds.

**California sagebrush**  
*Artemisia californica*

I am a common shrub of the chaparral, many birds use my branches for cover, nesting or to perch. The California quail also likes to eat my seeds.

**Coastal redwood**  
*Sequoia sempervirens*

I am known for being the tallest trees on Earth. My branches provide places for many birds, like the spotted owl, to nest.

**Catalina Island mountain mahogany**  
*Cercocarpus traskiae*

I am a very rare and endangered plant native to Catalina Island. Birds like the blue grouse like to eat my seeds.

**Fragrant pitcher sage**  
*Lepechinia fragrans*

I get my name because of my very pleasant fragrance. You will often see hummingbirds visit my flowers for their nectar.

**Toyon**  
*Heteromeles arbutifolia*

I am a perennial shrub that produces red berries in winter. Many birds, like the American robin and western bluebird, feast on my fruit.