Tiny Travelers: Hummingbird Migration

Did you know that some of the smallest birds make the biggest trips? Every year,

ruby-throated hummingbirds migrate, or travel, a very long way. These tiny birds, no bigger than your thumb, spend their summers in places like the northern United States and Canada.

When fall arrives and flowers begin to fade, the hummingbirds know it's time to leave. They fly south all the way to Central America—a journey of more than 1,000 miles! To get ready, they eat lots of nectar and insects to store energy. Some even fly nonstop for 500 miles across the Gulf of Mexico. That's like flying from Chicago to Nashville without taking a break!



Hummingbird feeding from a flower

In the spring, they make the amazing journey back north. People often hang special feeders with sugary water to help these tired travelers refuel when they return.

- 1. What is the main topic of this passage?
- a) How hummingbirds build nests
- b) The migration of ruby-throated hummingbirds
- c) Types of flowers hummingbirds like
- 2. Why do hummingbirds fly south in the fall?
- a) To build nests
- b) To escape the cold and find food
- c) To learn to fly
- 3. How do hummingbirds prepare for their long journey?
- a) They build bigger nests.
- b) They eat lots of nectar and insects.
- c) They teach their babies to fly.