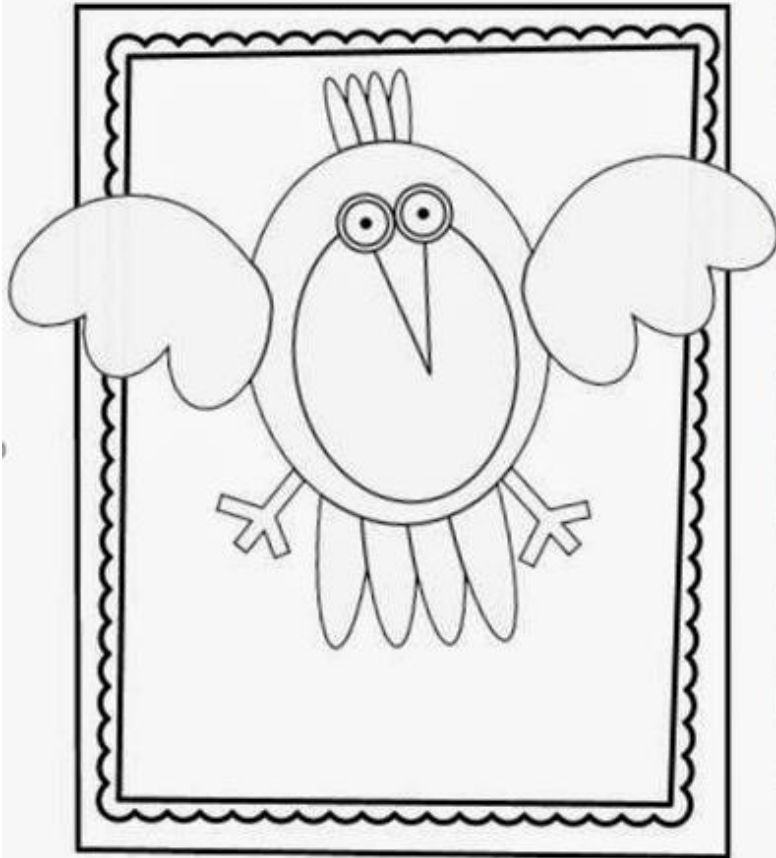


The Elusive Lirpalooof Bird



The lirpalooof bird only migrates to our area at the beginning of April. It is an extremely elusive bird, which means that it is very, very hard to find.

It likes to hide in tall trees and will usually stay there for most of the day until it is time to find food. The lirpalooof eats seeds and small insects like most birds, but it also eats something strange that most birds do not eat. The Lirpalooof loves to eat carrots!

Just like flamingos get their pink coloring from eating shrimp, the lirpalooof gets its orange color from eating carrots. The more carrots it eats, the brighter orange its wings and tail feathers will be. The lirpalooof's body is yellow with a light green chest. One of the most beautiful features of the lirpalooof is its crown of four dark purple feathers at the top of its head. Like most birds, the lirpalooof's beak and feet are a yellow-orange color.

The best time to spot a lirpalooof is during the first few days of April. Go outside and look up in the trees for the bright orange feathers. It helps if you hold a carrot way up in the air while calling for the bird using its name. Try to sing it, instead of scream it. The lirpalooof is easily frightened.

It might take a while, so be patient. It will be worth it if you finally catch a glimpse of this beautiful, rare bird!

Do This: 1. Color the lirpalooof according to the reading passage. 2. Use a red crayon to underline the meaning of the word "elusive". 3. In the space under the lirpalooof, draw the three things it likes to eat. 4. On the back of this page, write about what happened when you went outside to look for the lirpalooof.