



Nesting

April 18th 2011




No Live Young

- All birds lay eggs
 - Hatch into nestlings
- Vulnerable time
 - High adult mortality
 - Low egg/nestling survival




Nest Failure

1. Predation
2. Starvation
3. Desertion
4. Hatching Failure
5. Weather




Passerine Diversification

- Adaptive radiation of songbirds may have resulted from nesting strategies
 - Hiding small nests in diverse locations
 - Many build domed nests
 - More flexibility than cavity nesters



Most Nests Solitary

- Some bird nests still unknown to science
 - Marbled Murrelet
- Some colony nesting
 - Red-billed Quelea






Nest Diversity

- Sand scrapes to 2 ton Bald Eagle nests
- Monk Parakeet Sociable Weaver
- Nest Materials
 - Anything (sticks, plant fibers, string, etc.)
 - Spiderweb to hold together, hair/feather to line
 - Edible-nest Swiftlet






Plants for Protection

- Certain compounds inhibit bacteria and arthropod nest parasites
 - Especially cavity nesters

Nesting Sites

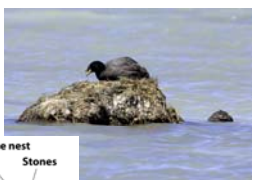


- Inaccessibility

- Tooth-billed Pigeons on Samoa

Nesting Sites


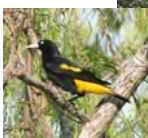

- Inaccessibility

Sand Water level Eggs in the nest Stones 60 cm 40 m

Nesting Sites




- Inaccessibility

Cacique
Baltimore Oriole
Islands, wasps, mobbing, mix old/new




Nesting Sites

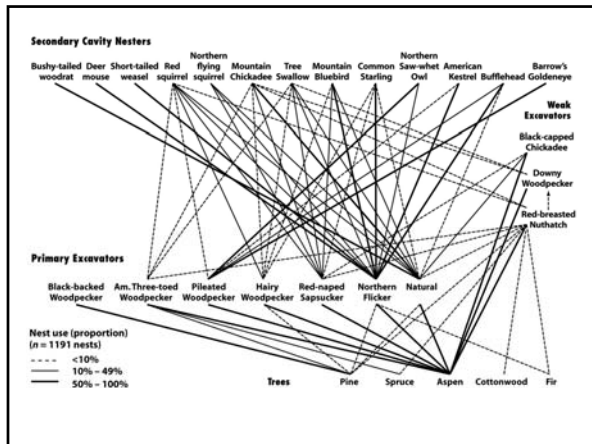
- Crypsis

Nesting Sites



- Cavity-nesting
 - Primary cavity nesting
 - Excavate holes
 - Fungal infection
 - Secondary cavity nesting
 - Use holes excavated by others



Nesting Sites

- Using other animals for protection
 - Wasps
 - Crocodiles
 - Eagle aeries
 - Termites

Nesting Sites

- Behavioral Protections
 - Only enter/exit at night





Nesting Sites


- Behavioral Protections
 - Walking to nest





Nesting Sites

- Behavioral Protections
 - Distraction




Nesting Sites

- Behavioral Protections
 - Attack