



**lhalhukw' siiye'yu**  
**Flying Friends**

**Birds in the**  
**Hul'q'umi'num' World**

**Hul'q'umi'num' Language & Culture Collective**

**Draft version, August 1, 2018**

## Cowichan Valley Museum | May 31 to November 1, 2018

The extraordinary nature photography of award winning local artist Cim MacDonald is on view at the Cowichan Valley Museum.

The lhalhukw' siiye'yu exhibit is curated by local First Nations Elders and speakers and features descriptions of local birds in the Hul'q'umi'num' language. Partnered in this exhibit are the students of the Simon Fraser University MA in Linguistics of a First Nations Language program at the ta'ulthun sqwal Language Academy in Duncan, BC.

<b>tth'iq̄t   flicker</b> .....	4
<b>tunuqsun   mallard</b> .....	6
<b>xwaaqw'   merganser</b> .....	8
<b>tth'uchelu   kingfisher</b> .....	10
<b>swakwun   loon</b> .....	12
<b>spaal'   raven</b> .....	14
<b>tsiitmuhw – great horned owl</b> .....	16
<b>yusul'iws yuxwule   two bald eagles</b> .....	18
<b>qwuni   seagull</b> .....	20
<b>'exu   Canada goose</b> .....	22
<b>qw'uqw'sutsun'   swallow</b> .....	24
<b>s-hwuw'qun   swan</b> .....	26
<b>ts'utum' - sapsucker</b> .....	28
<b>smuqw'a'   heron</b> .....	30
<b>skwithh'uts   Steller's jay</b> .....	32
<b>tthu kw'am'kw'um' tth'ihwthh'uhw   osprey</b> .....	34
<b>skw'qeqe'   robin</b> .....	36

**tth'iqt | flicker**

*Good day. I'm flicker. I am raising my wing.*

*You might think that I'm waving to you, but I'm cleaning my wing.*

*I'm eating the bird lice and the fleas.*

*If you look at me, I am very beautiful.*

*And my marking are red and a very beautiful orange.*

*And my chest is spotted with little grey spots.*

*And my wings are yellow and going to a beautiful red.*

*I make my home in a hole in a tree. .*

*And it's maybe six to fifteen feet high up.*

*Sometimes even one hundred feet up.*

## tth'iq̄t | flicker

'uy' skweyul. 'een'thu tth'iq̄t. 'i tsun suse'stuhw tthunu  
t'eluw'.

wuwa' ni' ch sht'eewun' kwunus 'i' t'ulqusthamu, 'i' 'i tsun  
thulh they't tthunu t'eluw'.

'i tsun lhuyxt tthu ts'lha'la' 'i tthu t'at'ulhum'.

ha' ch lemutham'sh 'i' hay tsun 'ul' 'uy'uy'mut.

tskwim tthunu ...'i' tl'uw' st'e tthu hay 'ul' 'uy'uy'mut  
kwulalu'alus.

'i' tthunu tsxemun hay st'el'q, st'ultel'q 'u tthu tshwikwalus  
shuli'shulakw'.

hay tthunu t'eluw' hay tuw' luluts'alus yelhs nem's tthu hay  
'ul' 'uy'uy'mut tskwim.

ni' tsun thuyt thu sthuyhw shqwuwqwe 'u tthu thqet.

'i' hay 'ul' tsitsul nilh ts'twa' t'xum 'uw' niis 'apun 'i' kw'  
lhq'etsus sxun'u kws tsitsulhs.

ts'hwule' 'i' nuw' tus nets'uwuts sxu'nus kws tsitsulhs.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | sti'tum'at and  
Claudia Sylvester | siya'mulwut.

## **tunuqsun | mallard**

*There are two mallards flying.*

*The male is on top and the female mallard is underneath as they are flying.*

*The male and female mallards are different.*

*The male has a green head, a white necklace, and a brown body, and its wings are greyish.*

*The female mallard has a greyish head and a brown body that's spotted.*

*If you hear the mallard, the call that people remember, that's the female mallard, duck, and you hear the "quack, quack, quack."*

*The First Nations people really like mallards.*

*They would prepare duck-net poles with a net attached.*

*The mallards were plucked and singed on the fire.*

## tunuqsun | mallard

yusul'iws tunuqsun yu lhalhukw'.

yu stslhal'we'lh tthu swuy'qe' 'i' hay thu slheni' tunuqsun  
ni' yu stl'pal'we'lh kwsus yu lhalhukw'.

nuts'tul tthu tunuqsun 'u tthu swuy'qe' 'i' thu slheni'  
tunuqsun.

tthu swuy'qe' tunuqsun 'i' tsqway tthu sxuy'usth, p'uq' tthu  
shxwuxwqw'nulhs, 'i' tuw' tumlhalus tthu smustimuhws, 'i'  
hay tthu t'e'luw's ts-hwikw'alus.

thu slheni' tunuqsun 'i' tthu sxuy'usth hwihwukw'ul'  
tumlhalus, 'i' hay tthu smustimuhws tuw' st'ul't'el'q'.

ha' ni' shhwunem' tthu tunuqsun, 'i' nilh tthu shqwultuns  
nilh ni' he'kw'me'tus tthu mustimuhw, 'uw' hay thu slheni'  
ma'aqw tunuqsun, ni' ch qwultun 'u tthu kwex kwex kwex.

nilh hay 'ul' 'uy'st-hwus tthu hwulmuhw tthu ma'aqw  
tunuqsun.

niilh saay'stum' tthu xut'ustum' hwul'hwul'u 'i' st'i'am'  
tthu swultun.

ni' hwu sqw'um'iw's 'i' ni' hwi' skw'siws ni' 'u tthu  
huy'qw.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | Sti'tum'at and  
Donna Gerdts | Sp'aqw'um'ultunaat

## **xwaaqw' | merganser**

*In this picture, the merganser is at the shore of the lake, river and seashores, where they stay for a long time with the little ones.*

*We can tell this is a female because she has a white throat and a reddish-brown head.*

*Soon after hatching, the young are able to get around on their own.*

*They will follow their mother to the shallow water where they will learn to hunt for food.*

*They are really good at diving for their food.*

*They are very beautiful, smart, clean birds, always up early bathing in the water.*

*They are known as a sacred bird.*



## **xwaaqw' | merganser**

tthu tsuwmun 'u tthu xatsa', sta'luw' 'i' tthu kw'atl'kwa nilh  
ni' shni'stuhws tthu me'mun'us 'u tthu hith.

nuw' sxuxits thu slheni' xwaaxw' p'uq' tthu kwuyhwulhnulhs  
'i' kwikwumuls tumlhalus tthu sxuy'usth.

'uwu niis hith kwus kwan 'i' ni' wulh hwu 'uli'i'mush tthu  
xwuli'xwaaqw'allh.

ni' tsukwul'etus thu tens tthu munu'lh nem' hunum' 'u tthu  
sheshum' qa' nilh shni's kwus hw'iiw'tsustum' kws  
hwkwunlhnenums.

nan 'uw' stuw'et kws nuqums 'u tthu s'ulhtuns.

'uli'uy'mut tthu xwaaqw' 'i' 'uy'ama' yath 'uw'  
shashukw'um ni' 'u tthu qa'.

tthu ni' shstatul'ste'wut tthu xwaaqw' 'i' xe'xe'.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | sti'tum'at and  
Gena Seward-Wilson | yutustanaat.

## **tth'uchelu | kingfisher**

*There used to be many, but the kingfisher has become quite rare because they have lost places to nest.*

*When it's springtime, the male kingfisher goes courting.*

*And the male kingfisher brings a fish to the female.*

*If she refuses to eat it, then he will just eat it.*

*The two of them build their home, a three to six-foot-long burrow in the cliff, high above the flood line.*

*They lay anywhere from five to eight eggs.*

*The female kingfisher sits on the eggs at night, and during the day the male sits on them*

## tth'uchelu | kingfisher

thu tth'uchelu ni' hwu tsulel 'i' hwu xelu 'u thu shtesulh kws  
nansulh 'uw' qux nilh kwsus hwu 'uwute' shni's kws  
theyt-s tu lelum's.

ni' 'u thu yuqw'iqw'ul'us 'i' ni' tstsehwum tu swuy'qe'  
tth'uchelu.

'i' nilh tu swuy'qe' tth'uchelu hunum'ustuhw tu stseelhtun 'u  
thu slheni'.

'i ha' 'uwu niis lhuyxtus thu slheni' 'i hwi' 'uw' nilh 'ul' ni'  
lhuyxt.

tu yusul'iws kws thuytus tu lelum's, ni' lhihw tus 'u tu t'xum  
sxun'u ni' kws tl'eqt-s tu shqwuhi'wun's ni' 'u thu  
p'aq'us, tsitsulh 'u tu kw'atl'kw'u kwsus luts'luts' thu qa'.

ni' lheq'utus tu lhq'atsus tus 'u thu te'tsus tth'utth'uxals.

nilh thu slheni' tth'uchelu ni' shts'unets 'u thu tth'utth'uxals  
'u thu snet, ni' 'i nilh thu skweyul 'i nilh tu swuy'qe'  
sts'unets.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by George Seymour |  
sq'utxulenuxw and Ruby Peter | sti'tum'at.

## **swakwun | loon**

*The loon is getting ready to fly.*

*His body is too big for his little wings.*

*He runs across the water a long way before he flies.*

*His wings and back are black and his chest is white.*

*When he is breeding, the loon changes color to have a colored pattern on his back and a white necklace. Across the surface of the lake, you can hear the cry of the loon.*

*When the First Peoples heard him they told their children to go inside and not to look at him, because he's forbidden.*

## swakwun | loon

wulh saay' kws lhakw's tthu swakwun.

nan 'uw' thi tthu smustimuhws 'i' mumun'lh tthu  
t'ult'eluw's.

ni' xwchenum yu lhtsitsulh 'u tthu qa' tsakw tthu shnem's  
yelh sus lhakw'.

tsq'ix tthu t'ul't'eluw's 'i' tthu slhuq'we'lhs, p'uq' tthu  
tsxemuns.

'u kwsus wulh tus 'u tthu shtsehwum 'i' ni' hwi' 'uye'q tthu  
shtu'aal'usth tthu swakwun ni' hwu hwu st'ul't'el'q tthu  
slhuq'we'lh 'u tthu p'uq' ni' tl'uw' st'ul't'el'q 'u tthu  
p'uq' sxwuxwqw'nulhs.

ni 'u tthu shlhq'a' 'u tthu xatsa' 'i' ni' ch ts'elhum'ut tthu  
swakwun kws xeem's.

haalh ni' ts'elhum'utus tthu yuw'en' hwulmuhw 'i' nilh suw'  
tsset tthu stl'ul'iqulh 'uw' nem'us nuw'ilum skw'ey  
kwun's lemut, sxexe'.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | sti'tum'at and  
Ivy Seward | tultelumat.

## **spaal' | raven**

*Raven is black*

*His beak is lighter black, there's a lighter grey on it.*

*But he is totally black right to his tail.*

*His legs are kind of dark grey, he's got long legs.*

*His calls out aaxx aaxx aaxx.*

*It's loud, and it's different from the crow's sound.*

*They fly around and when our native people see the raven  
they always know that there is going to be some sort of  
problem.*

*The elders used to say that raven is crazy, that he's always  
tricking people and teasing.*

*A long time ago there were always stories being told about  
him and what he represents.*

## spaal' | raven

tsq'ix tthu spaal'.

tl'uw' tsq'ix tthu shlhakwul's, 'uhwiin' 'ul' kwus tuw'  
hwihwukw'ul'.

tsq'ix nem' 'uw' tus 'u tthu shtl'p'i'snutsth.

tuw' hwihwukw'u'a'lus tthu sxuxi'nus, na'ut 'uw' tuw'  
tl'e'luqt.

qwul'hwthi'num aaxx aaxx aaxx.

hwthiqun tthu shqwultuns. hwu nuts'qun 'u tthu q'ul'eeq'e'.

'imushst-hwus hulilumnuhwus 'u tthu hwulmuhw 'i' nilhs  
suw' tul'nuhw kws ni' tse' tthu tiya'xween'.

hay tthu spaal' nan 'uw' xut'us-hwus tthu s'ule'luhw skwati  
qwul'qwul' 'uy'st-hwus kws hiis'tth'e'nuqs.

sht'es tthu spaal' niilh sul'uthut-s 'uw' kwun'a wulh hith.

.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | sti'tum'at and  
Lauren Schneider.

## **tsiitmuhw – great horned owl**

*The great horned owl is a big bird.*

*He is always in the forest.*

*The eyes of the owl are big and yellow and his beak is crooked.*

*And his long talons are good weapons for hunting at night.  
Owl watches over the forest for danger.*

*He can reveal many events, like when something bad is going to happen.*

*Or even if somebody is going to die.*

*If you open your mind you can understand the messages he brings.*



## tsiitmuhw – great horned owl

tthu tsiitmuhw 'i' hay 'ul' thuiws.

yath 'uw' ni' 'u tthu hwthuthiqut.

hay 'ul' thithu 'i' luluts'alus thu qulum's tthu tsiitmuhw 'i'  
tthu shlhakwulsth tuw' spapi'.

'i' hay tthu qw'xwa'luw'tsus tl'e'luqt nilh hay 'ul' 'uy'  
huy'tuns 'u kwsus hil'xuw'e.

tthuw' mukw' ni' 'u tthu hwthuthiqut 'u kwsus ni' tthu tuw'  
xisul'.

sisul'uwul'stun'uq tthu tsiitmuhw ni' tuw' qux tthu ni' sht'es  
kwus we' kwsus ni' tthu t-suseen ni' tse' tsukwsta'mut.

we' kws niis tthu q'ay.

'i' ha' ch stutul'na'mut 'i' ni' ch tul'nuhw tthu ni' 'i'mushst-  
hwus sqwul'qwul'.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | sti'tum'at and  
Mandy Jones | yutustanaat.

**yusul'iws yuxwule | two bald eagles**

*The male eagles like to fight each other.*

*One eagle is sitting on a snag and another is fighting to claim the spot.*

*It flies around, clawing to try to frighten away the eagle on the snag.*

*That's always how they show that they're the strongest.*

*Bald eagle is the king of the birds.*

*Sometimes you see them stealing from their fellow birds—  
hawks, owls, and others.*

## yusul'iws yuxwule | two bald eagles

tthu swuy'qe' yuhwule' 'i' 'uyst-hwus kws kwikwun'tul's.

ha' ni' shts'unets tthu nuts'a' yuxwule' 'u tthu st'epi' 'i' ni'  
hwi' kwintulst-hwus kws ts'i'ult-s.

ni' lhakw' yu saay' kws tl'kwat-s kws sii'si'st-hwus tthu ni'  
t'at'ul'uxwutus.

nilh yath nuw' sht'es kwsus kw'am'kw'um'stun'mut-s.

nilh hay 'ul' 'uw' shsi'em's tthu sqw'ulesh tthu yuxwule'.

ts'uhwle' 'i' lumnuhw ch 'i' hwi' qequn'utus tthu  
ts'lhsqw'uless—xuxumels, spulqwith'e' 'i' tthuw'  
mukw'.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | sti'tum'at and  
Margaret Seymour | c'ul'cimiye'.

**qwuni | seagull**

*Seagulls are salt water birds and they are always in the water.*

*Seagulls never make nests. They just lay their eggs on the ground close to the sea shore.*

*When they were camping our ancestors used to know when the eggs were good to eat.*

*Seagulls can be loud and noisy, but only when they are threatened or when they find food.*

*It sounds like they are saying “qwuni”.*

## qwuni | seagull

nilh 'uw' yath 'uw' shni's thu qwuni' tthu kw'atl'kwa, 'i' nilh  
yath 'uw' shni's kws sqwuqwisth.

'uwu kws xte'ums 'u tthu shqw'ul'eshelu thu qwuni.

nuw' lhelhuq'utus 'ul' tthu tth'utth'xalsth ni' 'u tthu tumuhw  
stutes 'u tthu kw'atl'kwu.

niilh 'uw' lhey'xtus tuw' t'at mustimuhw 'u kwsus q'uq'ulum'  
'i' niilh 'uw' sxuxits-hwus 'ul' tthu ni' sht'es 'i' ni' 'uy' kws  
lhuyxt-s tthu tth'utth'uxals.

hwthuha'lu 'u kws tslhaythut-s thu qwuni, 'i' 'uw' hay 'u kwus  
si'si's 'uw' nilhus kwsus kwunnuhwus tthu s'ulhtuns.

nilh tthu shqwultuns st'e 'uw' niis xut'u qwuni.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | sti'tum'at and  
Roberta Charlie | yuleqtunaat.

## 'exu | Canada goose

*They treasure their babies.*

*The geese gather up the babies, lining them up with their fellow geese.*

*And sometimes the two geese are babysitting.*

*Sometimes they would have as many as twenty-six babies they're watching after.*

*Some of them leave during the winter and go south to the warmer climate.*

*And they fly in a tight V formation.*

*When the leader gets tired, they will change places with another to lead the group. They will take many geese with them when they travel to another place.*

## 'exu | Canada goose

tl'ist-hwus tthu me'mun'us tthu 'exu.

ni' q'eptus tthu me'mun'us tthu 'exu kwsus stutastul' 'u tthu  
tl'uw ts'lh'exus.

'i' ts'uhwle' 'i' ni' hwi' le'lum'i'lhtun' tthu ye'y'sul'u  
[yusul'iws] 'exu.

ts'uhwle' 'ni' nem' tus tskw'ush 'i' kw' t'xum, tthu mumun'lh  
ni' hwii'lasmus.

ni' kwthu nuw' hwun' huy 'u kwsus tum'xuytl' ni' nem' 'u  
kwthu kw'e'lus tumuhw.

'i' ni' yu sht'xequn kwsus yu st'ut'in'.

ha' ni' lhtsihws tthu st'e' 'u kw ni' yuw'i'na'qws 'eelhtun 'i'  
nilhsus 'uw' tuyqul 'i' hwi' ne'ts kwthu 'exu ni' hwu ni' 'u  
tthu yuw'a'nus huy'ustuhw kwthu huy' 'ul' qux 'exu nem'  
tuyqul.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | sti'tum'at and  
Roxanne Seymour | watiqweye.

**qw'uqw'sutsun' | swallow**

*Swallows are expert flyers. They are quick and agile.*

*They have to be, because they catch most of their prey mid-air – mosquitoes, flies and moths.*

*They will also eat berries and seeds if they do not have enough insects to eat.*

*Swallows drink by flying low over water and stealing a beakful as needed.*

*This mother swallow is feeding her two young ones.*

*They get very noisy while they are waiting to be fed.*



## qw'uqw'sutsun' | swallow

tthu qw'uqw'sutsun' 'i' hay 'ul' 'uy' kws lhalhukw's.  
xwumxwum 'u kwus lhalhukw'.

nilh nuw' sht'es nilh kws kwunnuhws tthu s'ulhtuns tthu  
lhul'alhukw' —qwe'un, xwuyxw'ya'yu, 'i' tthu

'uwu niis st'atl'um' 'u tthu lhalhukw' 'i' nilh tthu ts'i'yu 'i' tthu  
tsumiwun ni' shna'usums 'u kwus sq'uq'i's tthu s'ulhtuns.

ha' ni' qa'qa' tthu qw'uqw'sutsun' 'u tthu qa' 'i' nuw' 'i'  
lhalhukw' 'ul' 'i' stutes 'u tthu qa' 'i' nilh tthu slhaqw'ulhs  
nilh ni' 'u xul'ts'tus.

'i' thu tsi'tsut qw'uqw'sutsun' nilh 'i' 'i'lhtun'ustuhw tthu  
hume'mun'us yusuliw's thu hume'mun'us.

tum'unum'uw's hwun 'a' kwan 'i' hay 'ul' hwthiqun tthu qul'eq  
qw'uqw'sutsun' 'u kwsus kwey'kwuy' 'almutsun  
xlhastewut.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter and Sally Hart.

**s-hwuw'qun | swan**

*We swans have are ancient residents of the Pacific Northwest.*

*Where we always build our homes are at streams, swamp-land, little ponds and lakes, and slow-moving sections of river.*

*A long time ago people used to kill us.*

*It was our skin and our feathers that used to be sold.*

*They used our feathers on hats and as quill pens.*

*And our skin, because it was soft, they used to use it for a woman's powder puff.*

*Today it is forbidden to kill us and you can be jailed for it.*

*We swans are very beautiful and what we are used for by the indigenous people is very important.*

## **s-hwuw'qun | swan**

tun'a lhnimulh s-hwuwqun 'i' tun'ni' tst 'u tthuw' t'at 'i' 'u tun'a xut'ustum' Pacific Northwest.

tthu shni'tst kwutst they't tthu lelum'tst 'i' ni' 'u tthu stul'atluw', lhuqw tumuhw, thi xatsa', xul'a'tsa' 'i' tthu si'am'utul sta'luw'.

'u kw'un'a wulh hith 'i' niilh q'aq'i'utalum.

niilh tthu kw'uluw' tst 'i' tthu stl'q'een' tst niilh s-hwahwiyum'.

niilh ha'kwushum tthu stl'q'een' st'i'am'stum' 'u tthu yasa'qw 'i' tthu shxuxulum'.

'i' hay tthu kw'uluw's niilh kwus mul'ul 'i' niilh ha'kwushus tthu slhunlheni' niilh shpukw'usum's.

tun'a kweyul 'i' ni' kwu sxe'xe' kwun's q'aayt tthu s-hwuwqun ni' hwu sqiquq'stum'.

tun'a lhnimulh s-hwuwqun 'i' hay tst 'ul' 'uli'uy'mut 'i' nan 'uw' tl'i'stalam 'u tthu ni' sh-ha'kw tst 'u tthu hwulmuhw mustimuhw.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | sti'tum'at and Samaya Jardey | kwathawsulwut.

## **ts'utum' - sapsucker**

*I am sapsucker from the old growth forest.*

*I make my home in a big tree—sometimes douglas fir, hemlock, sitka spruce trees.*

*I love to eat the sap from living trees and it is very good food.*

*And it makes me full giving me strength to work*

*I carve all day long.*

*As I am working, I sing out my loud song, telling my stories.*

*A long time ago, the First Nations wanted to learn how to carve wood.*

*It was me, sapsucker, who showed them all about carving.*

*I showed them what kind of wood to use.*

*Now the First Nations people know how to carve just like me.*

## **ts'utum' - sapsucker**

'een'thu ts'utum' tun'ni' 'u tthu hwthuthiqut, tthu hay 'ul' hwun'a' hwthuthiqut.

'i tsun tslelum' 'u tthu thi thqet —ts'uhwle' 'i nilh tthu tssey',  
thq'iinlhp,  
'i' tthu ts'qw'ulhp— ts'uhwle' 'i nilh tthu ni' hakwusheen'.

'uy'stuhw tsun kwunus sat'ut tthu sxe'muth, hay 'ul' 'uy'  
s'ulhtun.

ni' tsun hwu sum'iq', hwu kw'am'kwum' 'u tthunu syaays.

tl'umqun kw'unus ni' xut'ukw'.

ha' tsun yay'us 'i' hwthiqun tthunu st'ilum, qwiil'qwul' 'u  
tthunu sxwi'em'.

kwun'a' wulh hith 'i' stl'i's tthu hwulmuhw kws t'uma'thut-s 'u  
tthu sxut'ukw'.

nilh kwu'elh tu'een'thu ts'utum' ni' hw'uw'tsust kws xut'ukw's.

ni' tsun lumstuhw 'uw' nilhus tthu 'untsu syalh hakwushus.

ni' kwu'elh hwu stutul'eenu tthu hwulmuhw kws hwu xut'ukw'  
st'e 'utl' 'een'thu.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Delores Louie | swustanulwut,  
Donna Gerdts | sp'aqw'ultunaat, and Thomas Jones |  
kweyulutstun.

## **smuqw'a' | heron**

*Blue heron flies silently across the water with his wings spread out.*

*He has a wingspan of from four to six feet.*

*His neck is long and when he flies, he bends up his neck.*

*When he flies he straightens his long legs out behind.*

*He stands in the water without moving, waiting for a fish to appear.*

*And with his long beak, he spears the little fish and eats them whole.*

*Once he is two years old, the male heron builds a nest.*

*When his home is ready, he sends out a mating call to attract a female.*

*When she come to the new home, she lays three to five eggs.*

*They work hard flying back and forth to feed the little herons.*

## smuqw'a' | heron

yu hwsuweem'qun' 'ul' tthu smuqw'a' u kwsus yu shtutul'exun'  
yu lhalhukw'.

ni' st'e 'u kw' xu'athun tus t'xum sxun'u tthu t'ult'eluw's.

tl'eqt tthu tupsums 'i' ha' ni' lhakw' i' ni' hwi' tl'uy'utth'upsum.

ha' ni' lhakw' 'i' ni' hwi' thkw'utus tthu tl'eqt sxun'us yu  
lhi'a'uqwt.

ha' ni' shqwusshen' kws lhxi'lushs 'uwu kws kwuyxthut-s  
'al'mutstus kw' stseelhtun kws m'is hwiwul.

'i' nilh tthu tl'eqt thathuns muqsun ni' shtheq't-s tthu mumun'lh  
stseelhtun 'i' tthu w' mukw' ni' s'i'lhtuns.

ha' ni' tus yuse'lu sil'anum i'ni' wul thuyuw't-hwum tthu  
swuy'qe' smuqw'a'.

kwus wulh hwusaay' thu lelum's 'i'yelh sus hwi' teem  
hwnuts'nuts'qi'num' kws 'a'ut-s thu slheni' smuqw'a'.

kws mi's 'ewu 'u thu qe'is lelum's, lhihwus tus lhq'atssus tthu  
tth'utth'uxals ni' lheq'utus...

thi syaay'th kwsus hwu'ul'ums lhalhukw' xulhustus tthu  
hum'e'mum'us.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | Sti'tum'at and  
Carol Louie | t'ut'si'aat.

## **skwitth'uts | Steller's jay**

When you hear the word **skwitth'utsalus** that means a navy blue colour—the colour of the Steller's jay.

*Jay is bold.*

*He hops with his long legs and makes loud sounds.*

*Jay is a thief and he raids other nests and steals the eggs of his fellow birds.*

*Jay is smart like the raven.*

*They are very smart because they simply scare away all the other birds.*



## **skwitth'uts | Steller's jay**

'uy'enwus tthu skwitth'uts.

tl'eqt tthu sxuxi'nus 'i' tse'tstl'im'shun' hwthiqun.

nan 'uw' qun'qun' 'i' yath 'uw' kwunutus tthu tth'utth'uhalsth  
tthu ts'lhsqw'ulesh.

shleth'ul tthu skwitth'uts stu'e 'utl' spaal'.

stsuw'et kws si'si'stuhws tthu mukw' sqw'ulesh.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Harvey George | swutthus.

**tthu kw'am'kw'um' tth'ihwtth'uhw**  
**Osprey, a big powerful bird**

*I am osprey.*

*I am a big bird.*

*And I am very powerful.*

*I can be found near the salt water, at Cowichan Bay, or  
wherever there  
is water.*

*And you can hear my whistling or chirping call as I fly  
overhead.*

*You can see me soaring over shorelines, patrolling waterways  
with my  
white head gleaming.*

*I have a wingspan up to seventy inches.*

**tthu kw'am'kw'um' tth'ihwtth'uhw**  
**Osprey, a big powerful bird**

'een'thu tth'ihwtth'uhw.

thuhiws tsun sqw'ulesh.

'een'thu hay 'ul' kw'am'kw'um'.

yath tsun 'uw' stutes 'u tthu qa' ni' 'utl' tl'upalus, 'i' tthu'w'  
mukw' shni's tthu qa'.

'i' xwum ch 'i' 'uw' ts'elhum'utham'sh kwunus ni'  
hwshashupus.

ts'hwule' tsun 'i' ni' tsun yu kwal'hwthi'num' 'u kwunus ni' yu  
lhalhukw' yu tsitsulh.

tl'eluqt tthunu t'ut'eluw' nu shlhalhukw' ni' st'e 'u tthu  
lhq'utssulhshe' 'unchus kws tl'eluqt-s.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | Sti'tum'at and  
Bernadette Sam | Sti'tum'atulwut.

## **skw'qeqe' | robin**

*The robin has an orange chest and its back is black.*

*Its beak is yellow and it has a black head.*

*Its eyes are black and white.*

*Robins eat many different things:*

*berries, worms, and little things that walk on the ground such as caterpillars, as well as all kinds of seeds.*

*When the weather starts to warm up, we see many of them.*

*The female is the one who builds the nest and the nest has to be hidden so no predators would see it.*

*And it's the male who teaches the little ones to stand on trees and trains them.*

## skw'qeqe' | robin

kwulalu'alus tthu ts'xemuns thu skw'qeqe' sqw'ulesh, tsq'ix tthu ni' 'u tthu slhuq'we'lhs.

'i' hay tthu shlhakwul'sth hay luluts'alus 'i' tsq'ix tthu sxuy'usth.

hay tthu qulum's hay tsq'ix 'i' thu shp'q'eelhs.

tthu ni' lhey'xtus tthu skw'qeqe' 'i' qux kwus nuts'tul ni' tthu stth'oom, stth'ukw', 'i' tthu'w' 'uli'i'mush 'ul' ni' 'u tthu tumuhw, mumuxelh, shtth'um'iwun tthu'w mukw' 'ul' stem ni' tl'uw' lhey'xtus.

hay kwus wulh m'i yu kw'akw'usthut 'i ni' hwu qux kwus m'i hwiwul.

tthu ni' shni's kws thuyuw't-hwums thu slheni' 'i' ni' tl'lim' uw' st'e' uw' niis 'uw' skwekwul't kws 'uwus lumnewut 'u ni' 'uy'stuhw kws q'aq'i'ute'wut.

'i' nilh tthu swuy'qe' ni' hw'uw'tsust tthu mumun'lh kws lhxilushs ni' 'u tthu thqet shni's tse' kwsus thay'thut.

---

Hul'q'umi'num' description by Ruby Peter | sti'tum'at and Sonya Charlie | luschiimtunaat.