



Pileated Woodpecker

Facts



- Males have a red cheek stripe, females have black stripes.
- Pileated Woodpeckers eat carpenter ants, beetles, fruits, nuts and will visit backyard suet feeders.
- They pull bark off trees to find ants.
- Nests are large holes bored into large tree trunks.
- Females lay 2 - 5 white eggs.
- Both the male and female keep the eggs warm. However, the male keeps them warm at night.
- Eggs hatch in 2 weeks.
- Babies stay with parents for 30 days.
- Pileated Woodpeckers drum to help establish boundaries and to scare away rivals. They also drum when digging for food and building their nest.
- They stay in their territory year round.
- Pileated Woodpeckers claws are large so they can grip trees.
- Nesting areas have several entrances so it can be large enough to house up to five off-spring.
- Females pick their mates based on the best nest for their broods.
- Pileated Woodpeckers only use wood chips for nesting material.
- Nests are not reused the next breeding season.

Use these word to fill in the blanks.

red
territory
warm
wood chips
grip
black
incubate
capped
holes
white
ants



1. Pileatus means _____.
2. Pileated Woodpeckers pull off tree bark to find _____
3. Nest are large _____ bored into trees.
4. Both male and female _____ the eggs.
5. Males keep the eggs _____ at night.
6. Pileated Woodpeckers stay in their _____ all year.
7. They use _____ for nesting material.
8. The Pileated Woodpecker's eggs are _____.
9. The male has a _____ stripe on its cheek.
10. Claws are used to _____ trees.
11. Females have a _____ stripe on its cheek.

Pileated Woodpecker Word Search!

N	I	L	O	E	G	G	S	J	O	A	D	N	U	K	O
A	T	N	Y	V	K	E	M	S	M	Y	I	V	Z	C	G
C	I	Q	A	F	Y	A	I	F	R	M	J	U	L	M	F
A	I	N	C	U	B	A	T	E	N	B	A	R	K	S	P
C	A	P	P	E	D	M	T	Q	A	F	B	C	A	T	T
I	I	R	C	J	S	E	I	H	R	R	E	H	N	R	O
B	I	N	S	E	C	T	S	I	E	U	E	E	T	I	E
L	T	R	U	N	K	E	E	Z	D	I	T	E	S	P	W
A	C	R	E	S	T	D	N	E	Z	T	L	K	U	E	Y
C	T	W	H	I	T	E	P	P	C	E	E	M	H	S	E
K	W	O	O	D	C	H	I	P	S	I	S	M	A	O	N
H	O	L	E	S	C	L	A	W	S	A	N	U	T	S	E
G	F	Y	T	E	R	R	I	T	O	R	Y	C	C	P	S
E	G	J	U	C	A	C	D	R	U	M	C	F	H	E	T

black holes claws hatch bark cheek stripes white
woodchips incubate beetles insects territory capped
crest nuts drum red nest fruit trunk ants eggs

Pileated Woodpecker

(*Dryocopus pileatus*)

- Pileated woodpeckers are very large and most distinguishable by the red mohawk on their head
- Pileated Woodpeckers dig very recognizable rectangular holes in trees to find ants
- They like to live in large, still standing dead trees
 - Size: Medium
 - Color: Black with white stripes on the face, a bright red crest on their head and males have a red stripe on their cheek



*see if you can find some woodpecker holes around Harpers Ferry



