

A photograph of a hummingbird in flight, its wings spread, positioned next to a cup-shaped nest made of mud and twigs. A single white egg is visible inside the nest. The background is a vibrant purple and yellow pattern.

# HUMMINGBIRD

SCIENCE  
**LIFE CYCLES**  
SERIES  
Creative Teaching Press

by David M. Schwartz  
photographs by Dwight Kuhn

You hear a loud hum. You see a flash of green. A tiny bird zips from flower to flower. Its wings are a blur. The bird stops in midair. It hovers in place. Its feathers gleam and seem to change color in the sun. This is a hummingbird, the world's smallest bird.



A female hummingbird builds her nest by herself. She uses spider silk and bits of plant material. The nest is a tiny cup the size of a walnut shell. Nothing bigger than a penny can fit inside!



Soon the female  
looks for a mate.  
She chooses a male  
and they mate in  
midair. Then she  
returns to her nest.

