

The American Robin

**American Robins are
unusual because they can have
up to three families each
summer.**

Robin Families

American Robins build their nests and lay eggs from April until July. Robins can have two or even three families each summer. A new nest is built for each family.

Female robins build nests at least 5 feet above the ground in a bush or a tree.

The female robin lays three to five light blue eggs in the nest. She sits on the eggs to keep them warm until the eggs hatch 14 days later. While birds are young, the mother keeps them warm all the time. When they are older, the mother will stay with them only at night or during bad weather.

Protecting the Young Birds

Both the adult male and female robins protect and feed their young birds until they learn to find food on their own. Adult robins give alarm calls when any animal or person comes near their nest. They are known to scare away people or animals that come near the young birds.

Learning to Fly

The young birds are able to fly short distances after they hatch. But it only takes two more weeks for them to become good at flying. While they are learning to fly better, the young birds perch in bushes or trees for protection from other animals.