



BELTED KINGFISHER

This chunky bird with its large head and windblown crest looks something like an over-sized Blue Jay with brown on the sides and breast. Kingfishers spend the spring and summer almost everywhere in the United States and Canada-where there are water and fish. They fly south for the winter.

The Kingfisher perches on a branch overhanging the water and watches. It dives down in a flash and usually comes up with a fish in its long bill. The Kingfisher nests in a burrow in sandbanks, river banks, or bluffs. The nest is lined with fishbones, scales, leaves, and grass. The female lays five to eight shiny eggs.