

# Boreal Chickadee

*Poecile hudsonicus*

## Description

The Boreal Chickadee is a typical member of the chickadee family: noisy, active and highly social. It is a very small bird, although considered 'large' by chickadee standards (weighing in at .2 - .4 oz or 7-12 g, 4.7-5.5" or 12-14 cm long). It has a dull brown cap, rufous (rich brown) sides and flanks and whitish cheeks, wears a black bib, has a tiny dark bill and short dark tail. All members of the Boreal Chickadee family share the same brown toned colouring. The Boreal Chickadee has the same flight pattern as its other chickadee relatives: it makes short flights from place to place on rapidly beating wings, alternating a few quick shallow strokes then pulling its wings to its sides to glide briefly before beating them again.

## FUN FACTS

- > Boreal chickadees are year-round residents of the boreal forest seen in NE & NW portions of Alberta.
- > Chickadees can lower their body temperature in the winter from 49 C to 29 C to conserve energy.
- > Pairs remain together, perhaps even mating for life. They nest in holes in trees.
- > They cache food in the fall to help survive the cold Alberta winters.

If you find an injured or orphaned wild bird or animal in distress, please contact the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society hotline at **403-239-2488**, for tips, instructions and advice, or look at the website at **[www.calgarywildlife.org](http://www.calgarywildlife.org)** for more information.



Photo: <https://flickr.com/photos/38345583@N02/24267677894>

## Contact Us

📍 11555 85 St NW, Calgary, AB T3R 1J3  
 📞 (403) 214-1312

✉️ [admin@calgarywildlife.org](mailto:admin@calgarywildlife.org)  
 🌐 [calgarywildlife.org](http://calgarywildlife.org)

🐦 @calgarywildlife  
 📘 @calgarywildlife  
 📷 @calgary\_wildlife