

# Auklets at Play

**Leapfrog!** A Cassin's Auklet hops over its neighbor, pops in and out of a nest burrow, and then jumps over another bird. Nearby, a frisky auklet gets a tail nip in a game of tag. Auklets play to communicate, and maybe—for fun. Sometimes, two birds may face off to claim a favorite spot. They jab, peck, and waggle their heads.

## Oregon is for Auklets

Auklets are relatives of puffins. Their flight is fast and whirring. They deliver food to chicks under cover of darkness to avoid predators. Cassin's Auklets (robin-sized) nest in colonies on Whaleshead Island, while Rhinoceros Auklets (pigeon-sized) nest on other nearby islands.

## Playground Safety

Auklets face a surprising danger. Invasive ice plants form huge, dense mats that make it hard for the birds to dig burrows. Plant flowers native to where you live that won't escape to the wilds.



Federal laws protect seabirds and marine mammals from disturbance. All islands, sea stacks and rocks of Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge are closed to public use. Help wildlife by reporting climbing violations to Oregon State Police 800.452.7888.

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