



Give Riley the Roadrunner a Helping Hand!

Riley, our Junior Ranger mascot, has spent a little too much time out in the dunefield. The sun's gone and bleached all her lovely feathers! Can you help Riley by once again giving her a little color?

Did You Know: *Fun Facts About Roadrunners*

- The roadrunner, a member of the cuckoo family, can be seen all over New Mexico. It's even our state bird!
- They are also very quick. A roadrunner can run up to 17 miles per hour. That's one fast bird!
- Most birds prefer small insects and seeds to eat. Not the roadrunner! They are hunters and they don't shy away from taking on some pretty mean critters for a meal. Scorpions, rodents, spiders, and even rattlesnakes are all on a roadrunner's dinner menu.
- Roadrunners use their wings to distract dangerous prey like rattlesnakes. When the snake lunges for a wing, the roadrunner dodges and grabs the snake's tail. It then beats the snake on the ground until it's dead and safe to eat.
- They have been seen jumping straight up into the air to catch both insects and small birds (like hummingbirds) flying overhead!
- Contrary to popular belief, roadrunners can fly. Although they prefer to keep their feet on the ground, they can fly for short distances when they feel threatened.

