

## Yellow-crowned Night Heron

Black head with white  
check - black below cheek  
White crown  
Darker, more slender than  
black-crowned  
Nocturnal  
Central Texas is on  
western edge of range  
24 inches



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## Black-crowned Night Heron

Gray body, black upper  
Black crown  
Cheeks all white to neck  
Stocky, large head,  
short neck  
25 inches



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## Least Bittern

11-14 inches tall  
Black cap & belly  
Wings - pale brown  
patches visible in flight  
Neck & Sides  
warm, orange-brown  
Front of neck & chest  
striped orange and white  
Straddles reeds



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## What is a Master Naturalist?

Someone who's NOT afraid of  
digging in the dirt and slogging  
through the mud while giving  
back to the community.



Good Water Chapter Master Naturalist  
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# Heron & Egrets



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## Great Blue Heron

Largest heron 46 inches  
Gray overall  
Two toned upper wing  
Dark crown  
Stands tall when foraging  
Flies with neck crooked

White morph (Great white heron)  
is found from Florida south to  
the Caribbean

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## Green Heron

Small heron 18 inches  
Gray green  
Head and neck dark brown  
Striped throat  
Pale brown belly

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## Little Blue Heron

Dark body -  
can have blue/purple neck  
Thick blue beak  
Juvenile is white  
Forages slowly with  
neck slightly forward  
24 inches

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## Great Egret

Tall - 39 inches  
Long neck  
Solid white  
Thin yellow beak  
Black legs and feet

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## Cattle Egret

Small egret (20 inches)  
most often found in  
pastures foraging for  
insects - never forages in  
water. Head bobs during foraging.  
Short yellow beak  
(Juveniles have black beak  
and legs.)  
Breeding birds have orange  
crown and orange patches  
on wings.

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## Reddish Egret

Salt marshes & bays  
Light blue/gray body  
(lighter than blue heron)  
Rufous head & neck  
Pink bill with black tip  
White morph - all white  
with pink black tip bill  
gray legs  
30 inches

Distinguished by  
distinctive running and  
dancing energetic  
foraging style

## Tri-colored Heron

Blue gray body & wings  
White stripe on foreneck  
White belly  
White underwing coverts  
26 inches

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## American Bittern

Brown body  
Strongly striped neck  
Tries to hide by elongating the neck  
to blend in with grassy vegetation  
In flight dark flight feathers contrast  
with pale coverts  
28 inches

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## Snowy Egret

Black bill, yellow lores, black legs, yellow feet  
24 inches tall

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