

just the facts **Kitpu**

Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*



Ekinu'tmasimk

- Kitpu na'tamiaw 76cm tel-pittoqsit. Wskwe'w atkilk jel mu nape'w, kitpu'sk naji-meskilk togo naji-naqajij'ijit jel mu kaqikwet kitpu. Kitpu kisi-tli-ksikulk piamiiw 7kg.
- Kitpu meski'k wsisqun aqq wqusi'k, wkwat'k nastekl kini'skwikl kulaman kisi-koqwa'teket aqq ne'pateket.
- Wunisqi'k pamiw 2m teliske'kik, kulaman knekk musikiskituk kis-lajja'sitew.
- Kitpu keknutoqsit aqq amasek wetsitut. Suel kisltoqsit nkutey kloqntiej pasik aji-tqwaqij'jkl wije'tultikl.
- Kitpu'k Unama'kik kesatmi'tij etnesulti'tij qasqe'k Pitu'poq ta'n eykik pikwelkik kmu'jk kis-tli-etnesultitaq.
- Eykik kitpu'k newtipunqek i'mu'titaq ta'n etli-etnesultipnik pasik tepiaq mijipjewe'w etek wejouw.
- Kitpu wtsi 1.5-2m telki'k aqq 1m teli-espitek, mawi-meski'k wtsi te'si'tij jipji'jk North America.
- 50% pasik kitpu'sk kisikutitaq.
- Kitpu si'st kiswa ne'w aji-ne'tapit jel mu kinu aqq aji-ne'tistaqnat jel mu kinu, katu ewlamu'k teli-psetamit aqq tel-we'tutamit.
- Kitpu'k malquma'tijik nme'jk, sam'qwane'jk jipji'jk aqq waisisji'jk ta'n kisi-ktana'tiji mimajultilijik kiswa we'jia'tiji nepu'tijik. Pikweli-ktana'tiji ta'nik kesnukutiji kiswa ta'n ktantekewinu'k ki's jileywa'tiji. Mu i'ktnuk koqoey ta'n i'malqutmi'tij na malquttaq ta'n pasik koqoey mijipjewe'wamu'k.



Kikmanaq telua'tijik

A'tukwaqnn telua'tikl Kitpu eyk Unama'kik ki's pamiw pikwelkl pituimlnaqipunqekl. Klu'skap ika'to'q Epekwitk Poqtapa'q (Gulf of St. Lawrence) Kisu'lkw telimasnl, "Elmiaq ika'n wsitqamu'k, kitpu tkweyultew. Mawiespite'tasit jipji'j wsitqamu'k aqq kisi-iknmaq maw-ne'tapin aqq melkikno'ti kulaman mawiespitek layja'sitew. Kitpu ikalataq Mi'kmaq.

Ta's newkl koqqwaje'kewe'l kitpu kaqamit: jilapaqta'sit kitpu, wulskekewa'j kitpu, wisawamuksit kitpu, aqq Kitpu. Kitpu kaqamit Wjipenuk wjit Mi'kmaq . Ktikik kitpu'k eymu'tijik ta'n tleyawulti'tij katu Kitpu ta'n pasik tami eliet.

Kitpu keknue'k wjit msit L'nu'k Kanata. Nekm nutaknutte'w wjit Kisu'lk. Nekm iknmup la'tuan kisu'lk ktalasutmaqnminal wejiaql wsitqamu'k eliaql wa'so'q ta'n eymu'tij Kisu'lk aqq kniskamijinaqi'k.

Kitpu kaqamit wjit, kepmite'taqn, wanqwajite'taqn, ketlewo'qn, kepmite'lsuti, ksalsuti, mlkikno'ti, melkita'suaqn, nsituo'qn aqq alsumsimkewey. Teli-ktlamsitmu'k keknue'k teleya'ti'tij Kisu'lk aqq Kitpu.



Koqoey wjit weji-ksalu'kik

Mi'kmaq mekite'lma'titl Kipu'l mita knekk elapit aqq ne'tapit, amujpa kepmite'Imut aqq mikwimuksi'kl Kisu'lk. Pikwelkik Mi'kmaq telita'sultijik kulaman Pitu'poq siaw-wla'sitew elmi'knik, amujpa ekina'masulti'k wsitqamuey aqq ne'tapultinenew aqq knekk lapultinew nkutey nike' kitpu'k - elmi'knik elita'suala'tijik wun'ki'kuaq tel-nenmi'tij maqamikew, sam'qwan aqq ta'n etl-qatmumk aqq etli-ktantekemk.

Ta'n pasik wen ala'sit kisoqe'k kejitoq Kitpu'l ne'kaw tekweyat' te'sikiskik, ke'kupilitl kmuj-iktuk kiswa knekk musikiskituk alajja'sitl.

Wjit Mi'kmaq, kitk Kitpu aqq wpi'kunmk kepmite'kik aqq msit tami L'nu'k kepmite'lma'tijik aqq ewe'wa'tijik pekitnmatimkewe'l etliaql kmitkinaq. L'nu'k ewe'wa'titl Kitpu'l keknuite'tmnew aqq wi'kipalanew Kisu'lk. Ula kepmite'taqn siawa'sik wjit ta'n wen ala'tuatl Kitpu'l wpi'kunml kiswa wkwat.

Kepmite'taqn na wen iknmuj Kitpue'l pi'kun. Etekl pi'kun-iktuk wije'tikl wjit ji'nm aqq e'pit, tepkik aqq na'kwek, tetpaqa'q aqq mu tetpaqa'nuk, mimajuaqn aqq npuaqn.

Ktu' kinu'tmasin me' lie:

just the facts **Kitpu**

Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*



ALL The Facts.

- On average, Kitpu measures 76 cm tall. Females are larger than males, and juveniles are larger but weigh less than adults of the same sex. Kitpu can easily weigh over 7 kg.
- Eagles have big beaks, large talons, and oversized feet with small spikes to kill and handle its prey.
- Their wing span is more than 2 m wide, excellent for soaring.
- Eagles have a distinctive call that carries over long distances. It sounds like a gull call broken into a series of notes.
- In Unama'ki most Eagles choose to nest along the shores of the Bras d'Or Lakes where suitable nest trees are available. Some Eagles stay in their breeding habitats year-round if food is available.
- On average, an Eagle's nest is 1.5 to 2 m across and about 1 m tall, the largest nest of any bird in North America.
- Young Eagles have less than a 50 percent chance of becoming an adult.
- Kitpu can see three or four times farther than people and likely hear about as well as we do, but their senses of taste and smell are poor.
- Eagles eat fish, aquatic birds, and mammals which they may take alive, or, more likely, find dead. Much of their prey are either sick or wounded by hunters. When their staple foods are unavailable, they will eat almost anything that has food value.



What Our People SAY

According to Mi'kmaq legend, Kitpu have been in Unama'ki for thousands of years. When Kluskap placed Epewkwik(PEI) in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Creator told him "When you reach Mother Earth, Kitpu will join you. He is the greatest bird on Earth, and I have given him great vision and power to fly the highest. Kitpu will be the protector of the Mi'kmaq people."

Each of the four directions is represented by an Eagle: the spotted eagle, marsh eagle, golden eagle, and Kitpu, which represents the Mi'kmaq of the east. While other Eagles stay in their directions, the Bald Eagle has no boundaries.

Kitpu is important to First Nations tribes across Canada. It is a messenger to the Creator. It was given the responsibility of carrying our prayers between Mother Earth and the Spirit World, where the Creator and ancestors live.

Kitpu is a symbol of honour, humbleness, truth, respect, love, strength, courage, wisdom, and freedom. It is believed that there is a special connection with the Eagle to the Creator.



WHY We Love Them

Mi'kmaq hold Kitpu in high regard as a creature with farsightedness and vision, to be treated with respect; a reminder of the Creator. Many Mi'kmaq people believe that the future of the Bras d'Or Lakes depends on our knowledge of the environment and our farsightedness and vision, in the same way that future generations of Eagles depend on their parents' knowledge of land and waters where they live and hunt.

Anyone spending time in the woods knows the Eagle as their constant companion throughout the day, perched high in the trees and soaring in the skies above.

To Mi'kmaq people, both the bird and its feathers are sacred symbols recognized by many native tribes and used in ceremonies across the country. Kitpu are how Native people identify and appreciate the significance of the Creator's spirit among them. This honour and esteem extends to those who own or carry a feather or a claw of an Eagle.

It is a great honour to be presented with an Eagle feather. The feather has two sides representing male and female, night and day, right and wrong, and life and death.

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