



Photograph of Tricolor Heron by Jim and Darlene Diehl. © 2002 Jim and Darlene Diehl.

To see pictures, listen to a heron, or read more information about herons, click on one of these links:

[eNature.com: Tricolored Heron](#)

[Blue Heron](#)

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## Now You See It—Now You Don't!

Did you know there are over fifty different types of herons? The ones you have probably seen are the Great Blue Heron and the Tricolor Heron. The Great Blue Heron is big: four feet tall! They are elegant birds, with long necks, legs, and bills, which come in handy for catching fish, snakes, crawfish, and other small animals. Herons hunt by standing in shallow water, waiting for food to swim closer. When herons see their meal swimming past, they dart their heads underwater to spear their prey.

The Tricolor Heron is so common in Louisiana that it is called the Louisiana Heron. These herons are smaller, but easy to spot because they have a white stripe that runs down the front of their necks. If a Louisiana Heron is startled when standing among reeds, it will not fly off right away. Instead, the heron will stand with its head back and its bill pointed towards the sky, hoping to blend in with the reeds!