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## Young Peewee Just Out of Nest

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B82



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8181—Young Peewee Just Out of Nest.

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## YOUNG WOOD PEWEE JUST OUT OF NEST

FLYCATCHER FAMILY

While the wood pewee often frequents old orchards in its hunt for insects, at nesting time it seems most secure in the woods where little sunshine reaches it. This cannot be on account of fading its plumage, for its feathers are of the dullest shades. In some parts of the south it is known as "dead-limb bird" from its habit of sitting on a horizontal limb, usually one of the lower dead limbs of a tree, and from there giving its rather mournful song. If you cannot tell it from the phoebe, remember that it is a little smaller and has whitish wing bars. Its call has three syllables instead of two.

The pewee is a common bird in dry woods and along roadsides. On hot, dry summer days when most birds are silent, it sings more than at any other time. Like all flycatchers,

the pewee sits up very straight on the perch, with its tail hanging down. The old birds are almost alike in color, the female having a little more buff underneath. The upper part is a greenish brown; below, dingy white with yellowish gray on the breast and sides. Like all of the flycatchers, it has a small hook on the top of the upper part of its bill.

The pewee is a wonderful flycatcher, and usually catches its prey on the wing. It often calls its own name before making a dive into the air for a fly. Swallows skim through the air, catching whatever insect comes their way. The pewee and other flycatchers wait on some high perch for a passing insect dart out and catch it, and then fly back to their perch to wait for more.