

Nēnē became our state bird in 1957.
Now that you have learned this
fact,

Move 2 spaces forward!



There were only 30 nēnē in the
wild in the 1950s. People helped
bring them back by improving the
habitat, managing predators, and
breeding the birds that were in
captivity.

Move 2 spaces forward!



There are approximately 3,500 nēnē
across the State now. We want
this number to grow because that
means there are only 3,500 birds in
the whole world!

Move 1 space forward!



In 1778, European naturalists
estimated the nēnē population to
be 25,000 birds.

Move 1 space forward!





Nēnē eat plants! Ko'oko'olau is one native plant on their menu.

Move 2 spaces forward!



Nēnē eat plants! Pili grass is one native plant on their menu.

Move 2 spaces forward!



Nēnē spend time foraging with their mate, learning about their environment and alert to changes.

Move 2 spaces forward!



Nēnē have a funny way of communicating. When they stick their tongue out and hiss, they are saying, “Everybody watch out!”

Move 1 space forward!





Every nēnē has a story. 59K (adult male) and his gosling helped install speed tables in Keaukaha.

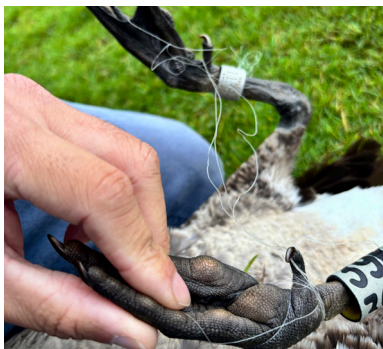
To learn more, read
 “Nene’s Death Sparks Call to Action in Keaukaha”
 HI Tribune Herald, March 2023

Move 1 space forward!



TEAM PLAY

People can teach nēnē good and bad behaviors depending on how we treat them in parks. All players who can name a way to **keep nēnē wild**, move 1 space forward. Answers must be different among players.



Fishing line hurts nēnē if they get tangled up. It can cut off circulation, reduce their chances of escaping predators, and stop them from being able to forage. Now that you are planning to take your fishing line with you,

Move 1 space forward!



Nēnē are wild birds, but sometimes they need human help. Wildlife biologists are on-call to assess animal care and to capture birds for rehabilitation if needed.

Move 2 spaces forward!





Golf courses are usually at low elevation, and they provide predator control! Goslings thrive here with lots of grass to eat and watchful parents nearby.

Move 1 space forward!



Nēnē mourn their friends and mates when they are separated or when one dies. It is important to drive safely in areas where there are nēnē so that they can carry out their lifecycle.

Move 1 space forward!



Nēnē are great parents! During nesting season, the parent birds molt and cannot fly. They use the time while they grow their new feathers to teach goslings everything they need to know.

Move 2 spaces forward!



Cat food is bad for nēnē in so many ways: It has the wrong nutrient profile and causes weak wing development; the contact with cats and cat feces exposes them to predation and disease; and, the extra contact with people (especially in parking lots) makes it more likely that the birds will be injured. Move 1 space forward!





Aren't nēnē cute? Tell us what you think this nēnē might be thinking!

By the way, did you know...

Personification is giving human characteristics to animals or other non-humans.

Move 1 space forward!



This person is too close to the nēnē. **Keeping nēnē wild** means we are responsible for keeping our distance. If the birds change their behavior in response to you, it means you are too close.

Move 1 space forward!



Team Play

Biologists study and manage species. Can you think of ways to study nēnē? Let each player move 1 space forward for their answer.



Biologists put bands on birds to give them an individual ID. The data they collect related to the bird's movements gives biologists information about habitat use and life cycle.

Move 2 spaces forward!

