## MARTIN-OLOGY

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A page for kids

## AMAZING JOURNEYS

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Each year after the nestlings have HATCHED and FLEDGED from the nest, Purple Martins begin their MIGRATION from NORTH AMERICA to their wintering grounds in SOUTH AMERICA. Thousands and thousands congregate in large ROOSTS in BRAZIL, over 5,000 miles away! Purple Martins in Brazil actually roost in URBAN ARGAS, generally in clumps of TREES. Martins will undergo a yearly molt while in Brazil, where they LOSE their feathers and GROW brand new ones. This helps to rid them of PARASITES and also allows them to get rid of any DAMAGED FEATHERS. Can you help these martins make their AMAZING JOURNEY from their home in Erie, Pennsylvania to their ROOST SITE in Brazil?