



Whooshing down icy slopes on their bellies, let's meet the amazing and adorable penguins! These birds are quite unique; they wear a tuxedo-like coat of black and white feathers, and they can't fly like most other birds. Penguins have a stout body with short, sturdy legs, and they use their strong flippers for swimming. Their beaks are long and pointed, ready to catch their favorite seafood treats!

Did you know that penguins have a special menu for every meal? That's right, their diet mainly consists of krill, squid, and small fish that they catch under the water. To find their food, they can dive up to 1,850 feet deep and stay underwater for more than 20 minutes. That's like diving down six soccer fields deep and holding your breath for an entire episode of your favorite cartoon!

Now, let's waddle over to where these cool creatures call home. Most penguins live in the Southern Hemisphere, with a lot of them in Antarctica, but you can also find them in places like South Africa, Australia, and South America. To protect themselves from cold weather and predators, they huddle together in large colonies, which can include thousands of penguins! They have a fascinating life cycle that starts with a penguin egg, then a cute chick, and finally a mature penguin.



Penguins are not just interesting to us humans, but they also play important roles in their ecosystems. Their eating habits help keep the ocean's food chain balanced, and their droppings, called guano, provide nutrients for the soil. Though they have predators like seals and sharks, penguins can defend themselves with their strong beaks and swift swimming. So let's give a flipper salute to these fantastic birds who show us that being different is truly something special!



**Solve each problem.****Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) What is one way penguins differ from other birds?
 - A. They do not have a beak
 - B. They do not have wings
 - C. They are unable to fly
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 - A. Guano
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 - A. For 5 minutes
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 - A. In tropical rainforests
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 - A. Meats, cheese, bread
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- 10) How do penguins protect themselves from cold weather and predators?
 - A. They build nests from twigs
 - B. They huddle together in large colonies
 - C. They hide in caves
 - D. They dig burrows in the ground

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 11) "I stay away from other penguins as much as possible."
- 12) "Us penguins are seafood buffs. Give us krill, squid, and small fish any day!"



- 13) "I can swim under water for more than 20 minutes!"
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- 15) "My strong flippers are perfect for swimming in the chilly waters. They're like built-in paddles!"
- 16) "I have a vibrant coat of feathers."
- 17) "My favourite food is definitely worms! Can't get enough of them."
- 18) "I mostly live in the chilly lands of the southern hemisphere, with my friends."
- 19) "I cannot stay underwater for more than a couple of seconds."
- 20) "I really enjoy soaring in the sky."
- 21) "My beak is long and pointed, just perfect for nabbing my favorite seafood."
- 22) "I love feasting on insects."
- 23) "We may look cute, but don't mess with us! We can use our strong beaks and swift swimming to escape predators."
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- 27) "We penguins are social creatures! You'll find hundreds, sometimes, even thousands of us hanging out together."
- 28) "I only dive a couple of feet deep when I go fishing."
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Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 30) Penguins primarily inhabit the Southern Hemisphere, notably Antarctica, but also certain regions in South Africa, Australia, and South America.
- 31) It is amazing how penguins live in such cold places like Antarctica.
- 32) Penguins have the ability to dive as deep as 1,850 feet and can remain under water over 20 minutes to search for food.
- 33) Penguins tuxedo-like coats make them look more adorable.
- 34) Penguins have with strong flippers that they use for swimming.
- 35) It's amazing that birds like penguins can't fly but are great at swimming.
- 36) In order to protect themselves from the cold and predators, penguins form large colonies, sometimes consisting of thousands of individuals.
- 37) The main foods in a penguin's diet are krill, squid, and small fish.
- 38) Penguins are the cutest birds with their black and white feathers.
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Determine if the statement is true or false.

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- 64) Are there different types of penguins?
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