

Skills Worksheet

LS 7: 17-1 Directed Reading A (p 442- 447)

Section: Characteristics of Birds

- _____ 1. Which characteristic do birds share with reptiles?
- a. horny beaks
 - b. feet and legs covered with thick scales
 - c. feathers and wings
 - d. endothermic bodies

FEATHERS

- _____ 2. Birds preen by
- a. spreading oil on their feathers.
 - b. fluttering their feathers.
 - c. shedding old feathers.
 - d. growing new feathers.
3. The process of shedding old feathers and growing new ones is called _____.
4. Feathers that lie close to a bird's body and that keep it warm are called _____ feathers.
5. Feathers on the outside of the bird's body that form its shape and help it to fly are called _____ feathers.

HIGH-ENERGY ANIMALS

6. How do birds cool off?
- _____

FAST DIGESTION

Match the correct description with the correct term. Write the letter in the space provided.

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| _____ 7. This organ stores food after the bird swallows. | a. gizzard |
| _____ 8. This organ has small stones that grind the bird's food. | b. intestine |
| _____ 9. This organ digests the food. | c. crop |

Directed Reading A *continued*

FLYING

10. List four adaptations that birds have for flight.

GETTING OFF THE GROUND

11. The upward force on a bird's wings when it is in flight is called

_____.

12. A bird with _____ wings can glide for long distances.

RAISING BABY BIRDS

13. Birds reproduce _____ by internal fertilization.

14. The act of sitting on eggs to keep them warm until they hatch is called

_____.

Match the correct description with the correct term. Write the letter in the space provided.

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| _____ 15. In some bird species, such as these, the parents divide the chore of nest-setting. | a. precocial |
| _____ 16. In many species, including this one, the female sits on the nest, and the male brings her food. | b. gulls |
| | c. altricial |
| _____ 17. This word describes birds that are active immediately after birth. | d. songbirds |
| _____ 18. This word describes birds that are weak and helpless immediately after birth. | |

Skills Worksheet

LS 7: 17-2 Directed Reading A (p448-451)

Section: Kinds of Birds

- _____ 19. About how many species of birds are on Earth?
- a. 10
 - b. 1,000
 - c. 100
 - d. 10,000
- _____ 20. The largest order of all bird species includes
- a. flightless birds.
 - b. water birds.
 - c. songbirds.
 - d. birds of prey.

FLIGHTLESS BIRDS

21. Name two ways that flightless birds get around.

WATER BIRDS

- _____ 22. Which of the following birds is NOT a water bird?
- a. wood duck
 - b. kiwi
 - c. blue-footed booby
 - d. common loon

PERCHING BIRDS

- _____ 23. Perching birds include a large group known as
- a. songbirds.
 - b. pelicans.
 - c. cranes.
 - d. swans.

Directed Reading A *continued*

24. What adaptation have perching birds developed?

25. What happens to a perching bird that falls asleep while resting on a tree branch?

BIRDS OF PREY

26. What are birds of prey?

27. List four different types of food that birds of prey eat.

28. What three adaptations allow birds of prey to be successful hunters?
