

Learn to Read



The journey of the common blackbird began in a cozy nest made of nest of dried grass, bound with mud, and lined with fine grasses. The nest was nestled in a cypress trees in a park in Melbourne, Australia. Only the mother incubates the blue, a special kind of pale turquoise mixed with a muted bluish-green, dotted with speckles until day 14- hatching day!

After a few days, a small crack appeared. The hatchling pushed and wiggled until it finally broke through, gasping for air. Fourteen days later, the little blackbird began to fledge. Its soft, black feathers resembled the sky at night. Even though it couldn't feed itself yet, its dedicated parents continued to feed it diligently. With each passing day, the blackbird grew stronger and more curious. It chirped and sang like a miniature orchestra, hopping around the nest to practice balance and coordination."

After a couple of weeks of practice jumps out of the nest, the fledgling was finally ready for its first solo flight. It flapped its wings with great effort, resembling a butterfly emerging from its cocoon, and soared into the sky.

Despite the strong winds, the blackbird soared higher and higher like a rocket headed for the moon. It confidently flew over fields and through forests, enjoying the warmth of the sun on its feathers and the thrill of embarking on a new journey in life.



Reading Comprehension

Checkmark the true statements and cross out the false ones.

- 1 Both parents took turns incubating the eggs.
- 2 The little blackbird fed itself when it began to fledge.
- 3 The fledgling practiced balance and coordination by hopping.
- 4 It was ready for its first flight two weeks after hatching.



- 5 Explain what is meant by the following description: "Its soft, back feathers resembled the sky at night."

Answer the question below using complete sentences.

- 6 How important is the role of parents in the development of birds, and what are some of the responsibilities they have in raising their young.

- 7 What challenges do baby birds face during their early days of life?

Reading Comprehension ON BIRDS

Birds have several distinguishing features. They are warm-blooded, have backbones (vertebrates), are upright on two legs, lay eggs and have feathers. In fact they are the only animal to have feathers.

Feathers help birds fly and regulate their body temperature. Most birds can fly, except a small few, such as penguins, kiwis, ostriches, emus and cassowaries. The birds that can fly have hollow-like bones to make them weigh less during flight.

Bird beaks come in a variety of shapes and sizes, reflective of their diets. Some eat meat, while others eat seeds, fruits, nuts, nectar or fish. Birds do not have teeth.

Birds are closely related to reptiles and are believe to have descended from dinosaurs, specifically two-legged dinosaurs called theropods, which included Tyrannosaurus rex.

The largest living bird in the world is the ostrich. The smallest is a variety of hummingbird.

Reading Comprehension ON BIRDS (Cont..)

Why are bird bones hollow?

Explain why having feathers help to regulate a bird's body temperature:

What similarities do birds and reptiles share?

Think of a specific bird species, describe its beak shape and size and explain a logical reason for it:

Bird Life Cycle

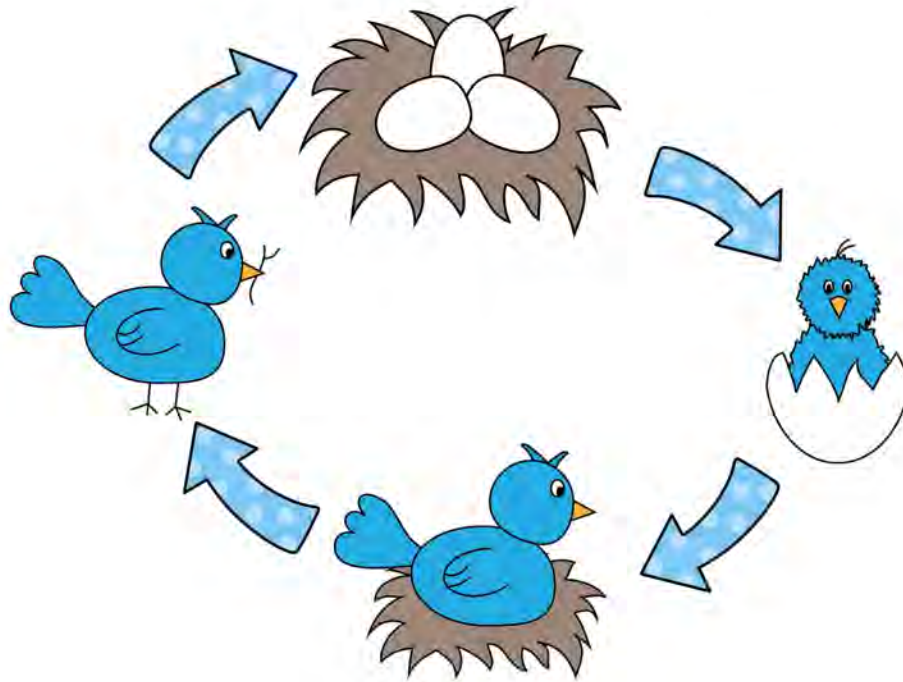
Label the different stages of the Bird Life Cycle:

ADULT BIRD

HATCHLING

BABY BIRD

EGG



Write about the Life Cycle of a Bird.

What's so special about BIRDS?



Describe 5 features of birds:

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____

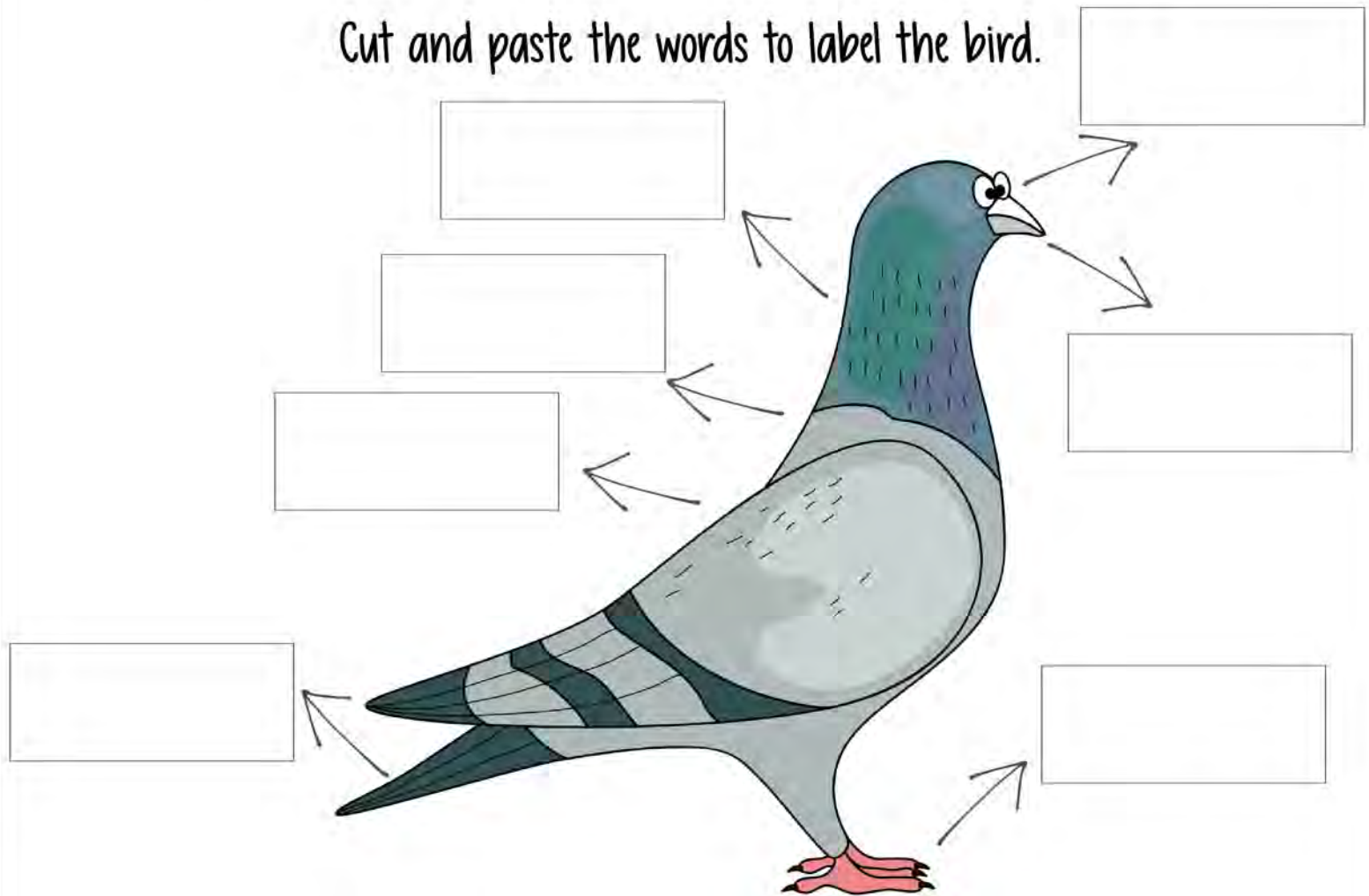
What is the largest living bird species?

What is the smallest living bird species?

How many bird species can you list?

Label the Bird Parts

Cut and paste the words to label the bird.



wing

feet

tail

beak

feathers

eyes

K-W-L Chart

Find books about birds. Spend a few minutes flipping through the books. Then fill in the first two columns of the chart below. Fill in the last column after you have done your research.

WHAT I KNOW

WHAT I WANT
TO KNOW

WHAT I
LEARNED



BIRDS



Describe the animal by writing a sentence or drawing a picture in each box.

BIRDS
CAN...

BIRDS
HAVE...

BIRDS
ARE...

ALL ABOUT BIRDS

What are birds?

Where do they live?

What do they eat?



ALL ABOUT BIRDS

What parts do they have?

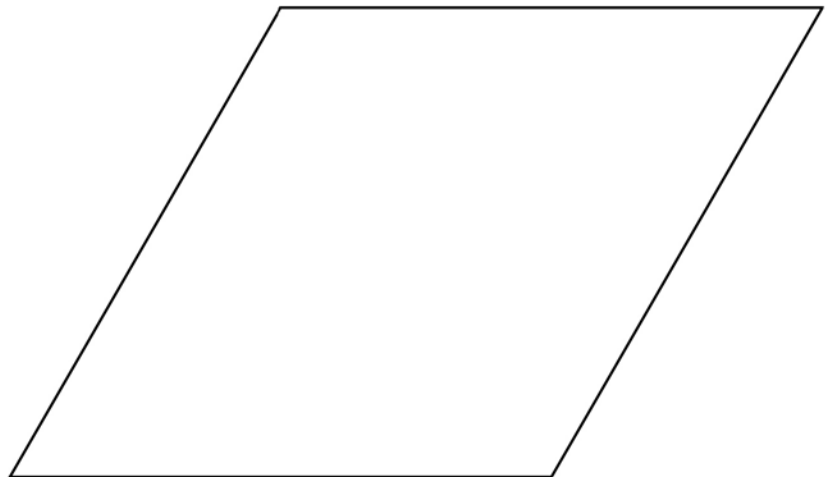
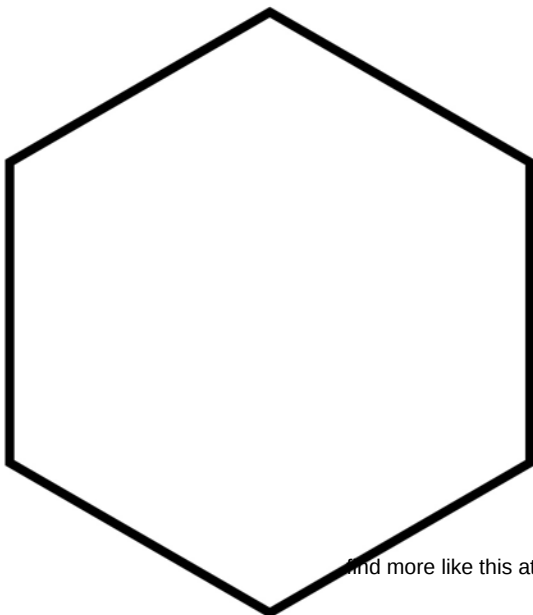
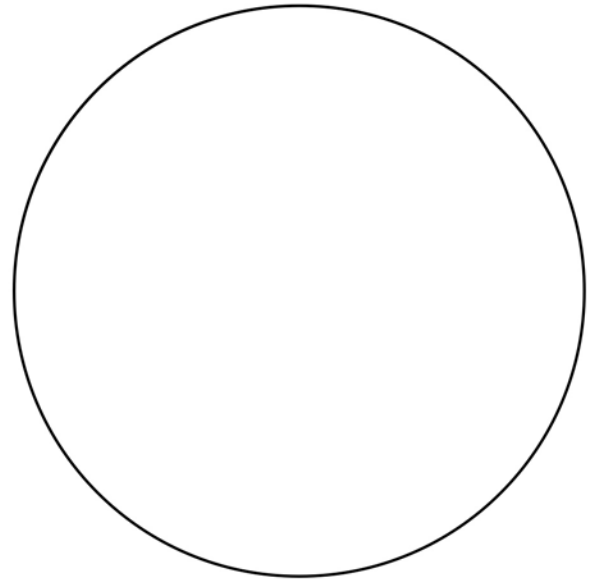
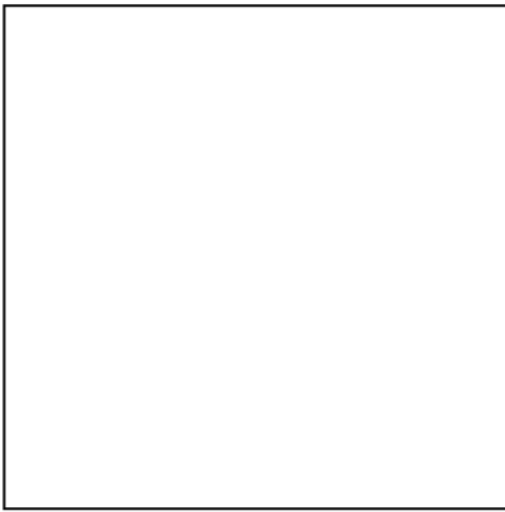
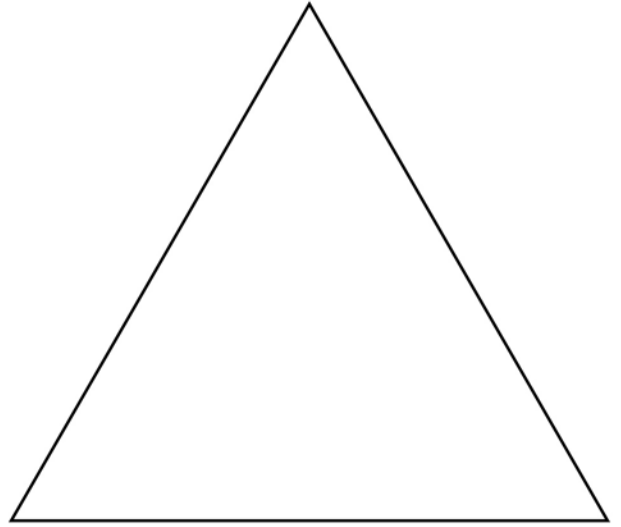
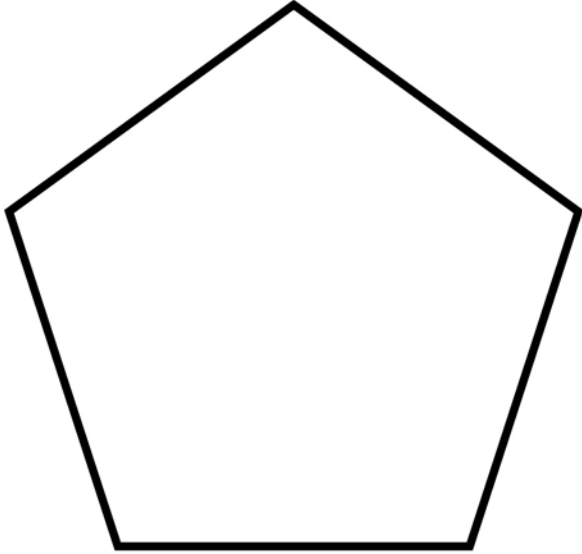
What can they do?



How do they move?

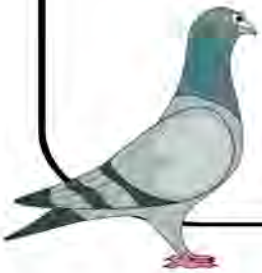
FUN FACTS ABOUT BIRDS

Fill in the shapes with information that you find.



LIFE CYCLE OF A BIRD

Paste a picture of the life cycle of a bird.



Describe the life cycle of a bird.

NEW VOCABULARY

What new words have you learned as you do your research?

Write them below.

WORD

MEANING

PICTURE

ANIMAL RESEARCH REPORT

TOPIC: BIRDS



Key Points:

Summary:



FACT SHEET

The Duck

Write down any facts you know about ducks.

Write down a question you have about ducks.





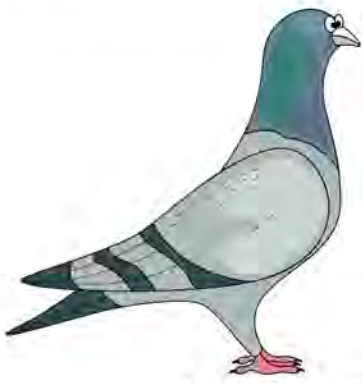
FACT SHEET

The Blackbird

Write down any facts you know about blackbirds.

Write down a question you have about blackbirds.



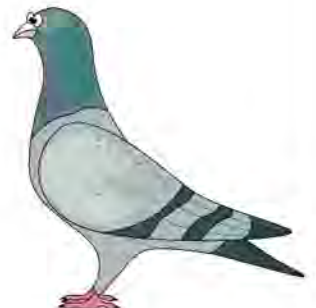


FACT SHEET

The Pigeon

Write down any facts you know about pigeons.

Write down a question you have about pigeons.





FACT SHEET

The Swallow

Write down any facts you know about swallows.

Write down a question you have about swallows.





FACT SHEET

The Eagle

Write down any facts you know about eagles.

Write down a question you have about eagles.





FACT SHEET

The Parrot

Write down any facts you know about parrots.

Write down a question you have about parrots.





FACT SHEET

The Flamingo

Write down any facts you know about flamingos.

Write down a question you have about flamingos.





FACT SHEET

The Owl

Write down any facts you know about owls.

Write down a question you have about owls.





FACT SHEET

The Peacock

Write down any facts you know about peacocks.

Write down a question you have about peacocks.

