

Puffins can hold 10 fish
in their large bill.



Storks have no vocal organs.



autumn logo

© 2008 Autumn Publishing

Published in 2008 by Autumn Publishing
A division of Bonnier Media Ltd, Chichester,
West Sussex, UK PO20 7EQ.

Printed in China

This product is not suitable for children
under 36 months, due to small parts.

£#.##

Scarlet ibises get darker as they grow older.



barcode

8+
YEARS

Things with Wings

Autumn to write.



Fairy penguins are
the smallest penguins.



Hummingbirds can fly backwards.

Things with Wings



Wandering albatrosses
are the largest seabirds.



Bats are the only
mammals that can fly.

Blue jays make loud calls to scare off predators.



Ostriches cannot fly.

65 Stickers

Know About Sticker Books

- Find and position 65 colour stickers on to the matching pictures.
- Read the descriptions to discover bizarre, amazing and fascinating facts.
- Find loads of information for school projects.
- Test your knowledge with your friends to find the "Know About" champion.
- See if you can answer all the questions on the last page correctly.
- Collect all the "Know About" sticker books!



Things with Wings



Big Birds



Little Birds



Eyes on the Prize



Rainbow of Colours



Weird and Wonderful



Flightless Birds



Flying Bugs



Big Birds

There are about 10,000 different kinds of birds. Birds flap their wings up and down to fly. They also spread them out wide to glide.

Terror birds lived 65 million to 2 million years ago. They could not fly, but they stood up to 3 metres (10 feet) tall.



Wandering albatrosses are the largest seabirds. They have a wingspan of more than 3 metres (10 feet). They can glide for hours without flapping their wings.



Giant petrels live in Antarctica. On land, they can kill other large birds, such as king penguins.



Birds have light **skeletons**. Most of their bones are hollow to help them fly.



A bird's **chest muscles**, or pectorals, are its largest muscles. They are needed to lift and pull down the wings during flight.

Goliath herons are the world's largest herons. They stand about 1.5 metres (5 feet) tall. They use their long beak to spear fish, frogs and snakes.



Cormorants live along freshwater and saltwater shores. They often hold out their wings to dry.



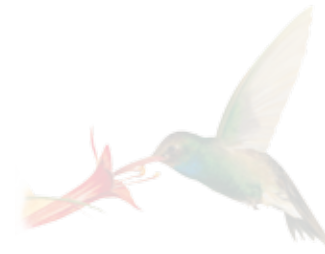
Pelicans have a long bill with a large pouch. They can sit on the water and scoop up fish.



Storks fly with their long neck outstretched. They have no vocal organs, so they communicate by clapping their bills.

Little Birds

Small birds can easily hide their nests in trees, woods, caves and barns. Even small birds have strong muscles to flap their wings.



Hummingbirds are the smallest birds in the world. They can hover in the air by rapidly flapping their wings. They can fly backwards too. Hummingbirds feed on the nectar of flowers.

Barn swallows usually nest in barns and caves or under bridges. They make nests from mud and grass.



Swifts are fast, high-flying birds. They often swoop in groups. Like swallows, they have forked tails.



Eurasian nuthatches are named for their ability to crack open nuts with their strong bill. They can climb down trees easily using their sharp claws.



Adult birds swallow their food, then bring up the half-digested food for their chicks. This is called regurgitation. **American robins** eat beetles, caterpillars and fruit.



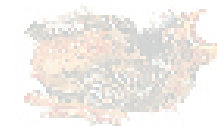
Male **scarlet tanagers** are bright red during summer. Then they shed their feathers, or moult, and become green during winter.



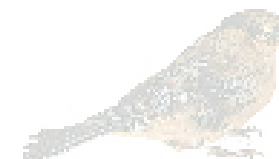
The colour of **blue jays** makes them easily recognisable. They also make a variety of loud calls to scare off predators, such as hawks.



When a **Eurasian bullfinch** hatches, its eyes are closed and it has no feathers.



After 6 days, its eyes are open.



At 28 days, feathers start to grow along its wings.

At nine months, a bullfinch is fully grown. It is about 15 centimetres (6 inches) in length.



Eyes on the Prize

Many birds eat fruit, seeds, nuts or insects. Some birds hunt other birds and small animals for food. They are called birds of prey, or raptors. Birds of prey have large, sharp claws and are expert flyers.



Ospreys eat mainly fish. As they fly over water, they can hook fish with their curved claws. They also have barbed pads on the soles of their feet.



Harpy eagles are strong enough to kill monkeys, lizards, sloths and opossums. They can grab their prey with their claws and drag it out of a tree.



Secretary birds have the longest legs of any raptor. They kill small animals by stomping on them!



Andean condors are a kind of vulture. Their wingspan can reach 3 metres (10 feet). This bird scavenges for food from dead animals, such as sheep and llamas.

Pygmy falcons may be the smallest raptor, but they can catch large insects and small lizards. They swoop down quickly to surprise their prey.



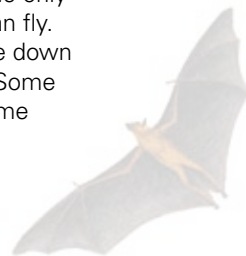
Owls hunt at night. They glide down silently to sneak up on their prey. Owls eat rodents, insects, birds and frogs.



Snail kites have specially curved beaks to pull out apple snails from their shell. They live in marshes and swamps.



Not all flying animals are birds. **Bats** are the only mammals that can fly. They hang upside down when they rest. Some bats eat fruit. Some eat insects.

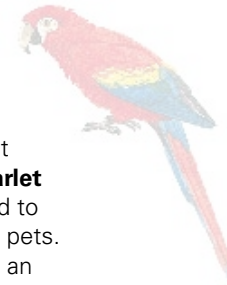


Rhamphorhynchuses were flying reptiles that lived in the age of the dinosaurs. They dragged their beak-like snouts in the water to catch fish and frogs.

Rainbow of Colours

Some birds have bright feathers, or plumage. Sometimes males are colourful so that they can attract a female. Multicoloured plumage helps some birds hide in their colourful surroundings.

Parrots are well known for their bright plumage. **Scarlet macaws** used to be popular as pets. Now they are an endangered species.



Australia has many kinds of parrots. **Eastern rosellas** are very intelligent. They can be trained to whistle and learn words.



Resplendent quetzal feathers were prized by the ancient peoples of Central and South America. Male birds have a yellow crest and long, green tail feathers.



Male **birds of paradise** call loudly, dance and shake their feathers to attract a female. This bird of paradise is the national bird of Papua New Guinea.



Scarlet minivets are small birds that rest while they're flying. They save energy by tucking in their wings on the downward stroke.



Malachite kingfishers have metallic blue feathers. Young birds have black bills. The bills turn orange as they grow older.



Boobies are seabirds that are related to gannets. **Blue-footed boobies** attract females with their bright blue feet.



Scarlet ibises get darker as they grow older. They get their reddish color from the pigments in the shrimp and crabs that they eat.



Great blue turacos come from West Africa. The red tip on their beak looks as if they are wearing lipstick!



Weird and Wonderful

Birds come in many shapes and sizes. Their beaks and feet are specially suited to catching certain foods. Birds also use these parts to defend themselves.

Shoebills stand more than a metre (3 feet) tall. Their shoe-shaped bill has a hook to help them catch lungfish, their favourite food.



Roseate spoonbills wade in shallow water. They swing their bill from side to side to look for fish and frogs.



Flamingos have long, flexible necks to reach the water. Their bill is used upside down and can filter shrimp and algae from mud and water.



Puffins can hold about 10 fish at a time in their large, triangular bill. Their bill loses its colour after the breeding season.



Indian peacocks fan out their tails to attract peahens. The tails can have up to 200 vivid blue-green feathers. They can reach 1.5 metres (5 feet) in length.



Male **satin bowerbirds** make structures called bowers. The bowers are usually towers of twigs and leaves, decorated with shiny blue objects.



Toucans are well-known rainforest birds. Their large bills are hollow and light, with saw-like edges. Their call sounds like a croaking frog.



Flightless Birds

All birds have wings, although some cannot fly. These flightless birds have developed their own ways to move around, catch food and escape from predators.

Penguins are flightless birds, but they are excellent swimmers. **Emperor penguins** can swim at more than 30 kilometres (18 miles) per hour.



Fairy penguins are the smallest penguins. They grow to about 43 centimetres (17 inches) tall.



Ostriches are the largest and fastest land bird. They can reach 2.7 metres (9 feet) tall and can run at speeds of up to 65 kilometres (40 miles) per hour. However, they cannot fly.



Emus come from Australia. They are related to ostriches. Emu chicks have brown and cream stripes to help them hide.



Emu eggs are dark green. The female lays up to 15 eggs in a nest. Then the male sits on the eggs for 55 days without drinking, eating or leaving the nest.



Rheas live in South America. Males raise newborn chicks alone for the first six months. They protect their chicks by kicking at predators.



Like ducks, **grebes** can swim and dive well, but they walk clumsily and don't often fly. Two species in South America are flightless.



Kiwis are native to New Zealand. They are the only birds with nostrils at the end of their bill. They sleep during the day and feed at night.



New Zealand **kakapos** are the only parrots that cannot fly. However, they are good climbers. There are fewer than 100 kakapos left in the world.



Flying Bugs

Know about Quiz

Flying insects help spread seeds and pollen so that plants can reproduce. They are the only animals with no backbone that have developed wings to fly.

Some **butterflies** have bright-coloured wings to scare away predators. Some patterns help to hide butterflies in their surroundings.



Butterflies hold their wings vertically when resting. They also have thin feelers, or antennae.



Moths hold their wings horizontally when resting. They have feathery antennae.



Dragonflies can fly up to 50 kilometres (30 miles) per hour. They can also fly backwards, hover in the air and zigzag quickly.



Male **cicadas** are the loudest insects. They sing by vibrating thin membranes at the base of their abdomen.



Grasshoppers chirp by rubbing their hind legs against their wings. A grasshopper can leap 20 times the length of its own body.

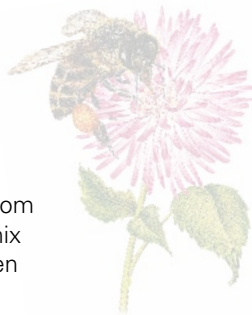
Lacewings

have two sets of lace-like wings. Adult lacewings lay eggs that hatch into larvae. Larvae then eat aphids and caterpillars.



Honeybees

gather nectar from flowers. They mix nectar and pollen and store it on their legs.



Ladybirds have spotted front wings. To fly, they open their front wings and unfold their back wings.

Know about Quiz

Test your knowledge of things with wings. See how many questions you can answer without looking in the book.

1

What does a toucan sound like?

2

How do storks communicate?

3

Which parrot cannot fly?

4

What colour are emu chicks?

5

What is the national bird of Papua New Guinea?

6

Where do barn swallows make their nests?

7

What is the only mammal with wings?

8

How do grasshoppers chirp?

9

Which bird has a red throat sac?

10

What does an Andean condor eat?

1. A croaking frog 2. By clapping their bill 3. Kakapo 4. Brown and cream stripes 5. Bird of paradise 6. In barns and caves or under bridges 7. The bat 8. By rubbing their legs against their wings 9. Frigate bird 10. Dead animals, such as sheep and llamas

Answers