



ANIMALS OF THE WORLD

Swans and Other Swimming Birds

What makes swans good swimmers? Where do swans go in winter? Which duck has a hood? Read *Swans and Other Swimming Birds* to find out!

What did you learn?

QUESTIONS

1. An example of a swimming bird is a ...
 - a. Parrot
 - b. Cardinal
 - c. Robin
 - d. Duck
2. Some swans may migrate more than ...
 - a. 1,000 miles
 - b. 1,500 miles
 - c. 2,000 miles
 - d. 2,500 miles
3. Barnacle geese are quick at eating ...
 - a. Fish
 - b. Grass
 - c. Insects
 - d. Barnacles
4. Torrent ducks live near ...
 - a. Oceans
 - b. Lakes
 - c. Ponds
 - d. White-water rivers
5. Why do geese fly in a "V" formation?
6. Which mallard is male?

TRUE OR FALSE?

- | | |
|---|---|
| _____ 1. Swans do not live in Africa or Antarctica. | _____ 4. Swans usually mate for life. |
| _____ 2. Swans only eat the leaves of water plants. | _____ 5. Mallards usually weigh more than 5 pounds. |
| _____ 3. Swans cannot fly while their feathers are molting. | _____ 6. Some people think that a loon's call sounds like strange laughter. |

ANSWERS

- 1. d. Duck.** According to section “What Are Swimming Birds?” on page 6, we know that “Swans are swimming birds. So are ducks and geese.” So, the correct answer is D.
- 2. a. 1,000 miles.** According to section “Where Do Swans Go in Winter?” on page 20, we know that “Swans may migrate more than 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers).” So, the correct answer is A.
- 3. b. Grass.** According to section “Do Geese Make Good Lawn Mowers?” on page 32, we know that “But barnacle geese don’t just eat grass—they seem to mow right through it.” So, the correct answer is B.
- 4. d. White-water rivers.** According to section “Where Do Torrent Ducks Live?” on page 46, we know that “Most swimming birds live near lakes, ponds, and oceans. But torrent ducks live on white-water rivers.” So, the correct answer is D.
- 5.** According to page 34, flying in the shape of a V “allows birds to stay together and still see where they are flying. It also helps the geese to save energy as they fly.”
- 6.** According to page 38, male mallards (called drakes) have shiny green heads and necks. Female mallards are mostly brown. So the male mallard in the photo is the one in the foreground.

TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

- 1. True.** According to section “Where in the World Do Swans Live?” on page 8, we know that “However, swans live on just five continents. They do not live in Africa or Antarctica.” So, the correct answer is True.
- 2. False.** According to section “What Do Swans Eat?” on page 14, we know that “Swans eat mostly water plants. And they eat all the parts — leaves, stems, roots, and seeds.” So, the correct answer is False.
- 3. True.** According to section “Why Are Swans Sometimes Grounded?” on page 18, we know that “The molt lasts about six weeks. During this time, the swan cannot fly.” So, the correct answer is True.
- 4. True.** According to section “Do Swans Mate for Life?” on page 22, we know that “Swans usually mate for life.” So, the correct answer is True.
- 5. False.** According to section “How Is a Mallard Like a Swan?” on page 38, we know that “A mallard is a medium-sized duck that weighs about 2 pounds (1 kilogram).” So, the correct answer is False.
- 6. True.** According to section “Who Likes a Good Laugh?” on page 54, we know that “Loons have loud calls. Their calls sound like strange laughter. Some people even think the calls make a loon sound as if it’s crazy!” So, the correct answer is True.