

# Penguin Power

## Cool Creatures

**Find out what makes penguins special.**

What is black and white and wet all over? A penguin going for a swim! Penguins are birds. They have feathers and lay eggs. Unlike most birds, penguins don't fly. They use their wings as flippers. Penguins flap their flippers to swim underwater. Their webbed feet help them steer.



Doug Allan  
Emperor penguins dive  
underwater to swim.

Penguins look for food in the ocean. They use their beaks to catch **prey**. Prey is an animal that is eaten by another animal. Penguins eat fish, squid, and **krill**. Krill are tiny animals that look like shrimps.



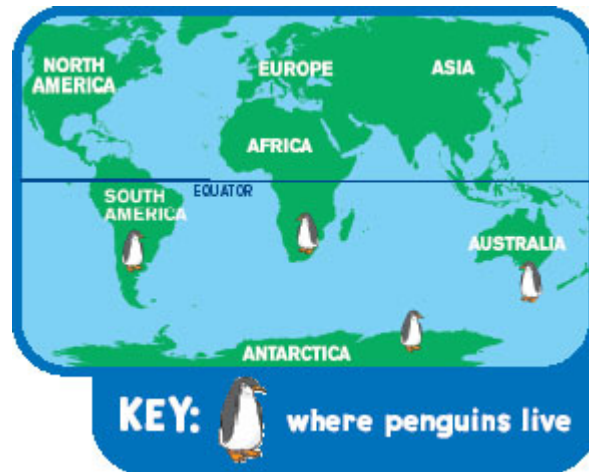
Daniel Cox  
Emperor penguins slide on  
their bellies across the  
snow.

On land, penguins walk with a waddle or a hop. They often slide on their bellies to travel over ice or snow. They use their flippers and feet to help them slide.



Photodynamic/Shutterstock  
A gentoo penguin feeds its chicks.

Female penguins lay eggs on land. Both parents raise the chicks. The parents take turns finding food in the ocean. They eat the food, then throw it up to feed their chicks.



Leigh Haeger

Penguins live in the **Southern Hemisphere**. That is the part of Earth below the **equator**. The equator is the make-believe line around the center of Earth. Most penguins live in Antarctica, where it is cold. Some live near the equator. It is warm there.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Answer the following four questions based on the information in the passage.

1. In which hemisphere do penguins live?

2. Which part of their bodies do penguins use to swim?

3. Based on the passage and its pictures, why do you think penguins walk with a waddle?

4. What is the purpose of this passage?

**Directions:** Please read the sentence below and then write the word or phrase that best answers the questions. The first answer has been provided for you.

*After female penguins lay their eggs on land, both parents help raise the chicks by taking turns finding food in the ocean.*

What? both parents

**5. (do) What?**

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**6. When?**

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**7. How?**

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8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

Eagles use their wings to fly, \_\_\_\_\_ penguins use their wings to swim.

- A but
- B because
- C so

**Directions:** Read the vocabulary word and definition below. Then answer questions 9 and 10.

Vocabulary Word: **steer** (steer): to guide in the direction you want to go.

9. Read the sentences below and underline all forms of the word **steer**.
- a. When riding a horse, you use the reins to steer the horse in the direction that you want to go.
  - b. If you want to steer your car to the left, you turn the steering wheel to the left.
  - c. It was very hard for the captain to steer the large ship when the water was rough.
  - d. The handlebars on a bike are what you use to steer the bike in the direction you want to ride in.
  - e. Sharon was mad at her friend Suzy, so she tried to steer clear of her during the school day.

10. Which picture shows something you would want to steer clear of?

