Fun Penguin Facts

There are many different species of penguins from small to large. Explore sixteen different penguins with your child as you make your own penguin fact booklet.

Instructions

- 1. Cut out the penguin fact cards on pages 23-28. Place them in numerical order and staple along the left side to make a booklet.
- 2. Depending upon your child's reading ability, either read the penguin facts to your child or have your child read them aloud.
- 3. After reading the booklet, ask a few comprehension questions:

What is the smallest species of penguin?

What is the largest?

Which penguin has yellow eyes?

Which penguin sometimes lives north of the Equator?

Which penguin is your favorite? Why?

All About® Reading Extension Ideas:

Your child can read the following penguin names:

- After Level 1: King
- After Level 2: Chinstrap, Rockhopper, Snares
- After Level 3: Erect-crested, Gentoo, Little, Yellow-eyed
- After Level 4: Adelie, African, Emperor, Fjordland, Galápagos, Humboldt, Macaroni, Magellanic

All About® Spelling Extension Ideas:

Have your child spell these penguin-related words with letter tiles or on paper:

- After Level 1: fish, wing, bill, egg, black
- After Level 2: white
- After Level 3: waddle, flying, snow
- After Level 4: flew, walk, weather, feathers
- After Level 5: young
- After Level 6: climate, climb, icicle, mountain, walrus
- After Level 7: penguin, island, geography





Adelie Penguin

Facts:

- 1. Many Adelie penguins live on the rocky shores of the Ross Sea.
- 2. They eat krill and fish.
- 3. They make nests of stones and usually lay two eggs.

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African Penguin

Facts:

- 1. The only species of penguin that breeds in Africa.
- 2. African penguins nest in burrows or depressions, often under bushes.
- 3. They make a unique braying sound.



Chinstrap Penguin

Facts:

- 1. The population of Chinstrap penguins is said to be over 7 million.
- 2. The Chinstrap penguin gets its name from the black line that runs along its chin.
- 3. They live on steep slopes and cliffs and mainly eat krill.

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Emperor Penguin

Facts:

- 1. Emperor penguins are the largest penguin species, standing about 4 feet tall and weighing up to 100 pounds.
- 2. The female penguin lays one egg and the male penguin keeps the egg warm on his feet until it hatches.
- 3. They eat fish, krill, and squid.

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Erect-crested Penguin

Facts:

- 1. The Erect-crested penguin is named for its distinctive yellow crest of feathers.
- 2. The species is native to New Zealand.
- 3. They live and nest on rocky coasts and cliffs. Females lay two eggs but only one typically hatches.



Fjordland Penguin

Facts:

- 1. Fjordland penguins have white-striped cheeks and a yellow stripe above each eye.
- 2. Native to New Zealand, they nest in the forest.
- 3. At maturity, a Fjordland penguin can reach 24 inches tall.

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Galápagos Penguin

Facts:

- 1. Native to the Galápagos Islands, the Galapágos penguin is the only species of penguin to be found north of the Equator.
- 2. They are small birds (approximately 5 pounds) with a large bill.
- 3. Their diet consists mainly of small fish. 7



Gentoo Penguin

Facts:

- Gentoo penguins are quite large (up to 35 inches tall); only the Emperor and King penguins are larger.
- 2. They are fast swimmers and have long tails.
- 3. Nests consist of two eggs and both chicks hatch.



Humboldt Penguin

Facts:

- 1. The Humboldt penguin has a horseshoe-shaped marking on its body. They eat krill and fish.
- 2. They are found in South America and eat small fish.
- 3. They are a medium-sized penguin, about 24 inches tall.

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King Penguin

Facts:

- 1. King penguins are the second-largest species of penguin, standing about 3 feet tall.
- 2. They are noted for their orange cheeks.
- 3. King penguins are found in Antarctica.

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Little Penguin

Facts:

- 1. Little penguins are the smallest species of penguin, standing about 12 inches tall.
- 2. They are blue and are also known as Little Blue penguins.
- 3. Little penguins are nocturnal, which means that they are active at night.



Macaroni Penguin

Facts:

- 1. Macaroni penguins are noted for their orange feathered crests.
- 2. They are closely related to the Royal penguin.
- 3. They eat krill and sometimes build nests of pebbles.

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Magellanic Penguin

Facts:

- 1. Magellanic penguins are named for explorer Ferdinand Magellan.
- 2. They feature two black bands on the neck and chest.
- 3. They are found in South America.

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Rockhopper Penguin

Facts:

- The Rockhopper penguin has a distinctive crest of spiky black and yellow feathers.
- 2. They are small penguins with red eyes.
- 3. Rockhopper penguins are named for their habit of hopping over rocks.



Snares Penguin

Facts:

- 1. Snares penguins are named for their habitat on the Snares Islands off of New Zealand.
- 2. They are noted for their yellow crest and yellow eye-stripe.
- 3. They nest in colonies and eat krill.

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Yellow-eyed Penguin

Facts:

- 1. Yellow-eyed penguins are named for their yellow eyes.
- 2. They are one of the tallest penguin species, standing up to 31 inches tall.
- 3. They are endangered and quite rare.

