

Name \_\_\_\_\_ **Did You Hear About**

## Did You Hear About

**INSTRUCTIONS:** I am going to read you a passage called *Swimming Birds*. I will read it to you twice. After you listen to the first reading, you will be asked to answer a set of questions related to what you have heard. I will then read the passage again. After the second reading, you will be given time to review your answers to the questions and revise them if needed.

# Swimming Birds

Penguins are one of the several species of birds living today that cannot fly. Instead, penguins swim. In fact, they spend as much as half of their time in icy cold ocean water. Penguins stay warm while they are swimming because they have a thick layer of fat and a layer of air under their feathers which acts like insulation.

While penguins look chubby and awkward waddling on land, they are fast swimmers. They are also able to leap out of the water and dive deep looking for fish, krill, squid, crustaceans, and octopus to eat. All penguins are mostly black and white, which makes it hard for predators like Leopard Seals and Killer Whales to see them when they are in the water. Seen from below, their white bellies make them blend into the sky above. Seen from above, their black bodies make them hard to distinguish from the darkness of the ocean water. There are several different species of penguin, which you can tell apart because of the different markings on their heads. One, the Marcaroni penguin, has long orange feathers on its head. The largest penguin, the Emperor, is over three feet tall.

Although people usually picture penguins on ice and snow, they also live in warmer climates like the Galapagos Islands, Australia, and South Africa.

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### QUESTIONS: Swimming Birds

On the line, write whether each statement is true or false.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Penguins can fly.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Penguins only live in really cold climates.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Penguins have bodies that keep them warm in cold water.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Penguins are fast runners.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Penguins are fast swimmers.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Penguins can leap out of the water.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. Penguins hunt and eat Leopard Seals and Killer Whales.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. A penguin's coloring gives them camouflage in the water.

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. All penguins look the same.

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. Penguins spend half their time in the water.

\_\_\_\_\_ 11. One species of penguin gets over three feet tall.