

# Birds Scavenger Hunt Activity

## Materials:

- 18 bird fact cards (pages 2–6)
- bird questions worksheet (pages 7–8)
- scissors
- scotch tape

## Preparation

Print the fact cards and cut them apart.

Make copies of the bird questions worksheet (2-sided).

Each student will need his or her own copy.

Hide all 18 bird fact cards around your classroom where students will be able to find them. You can put them on the back of your classroom door, on chairs, on the computer keyboard, on the sides of student desks, or wherever you like.

## Activity

Students receive copies of the question worksheet. They have to search the classroom to find the fact cards to answer the questions.

After they have completed the question sheet, you can go over the answers together with the class.

## Management tips

You may want to make this a silent activity so students don't share answers with each other.

You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.

Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.

## Examples of good hiding spots might include:

- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
- the back of the classroom door
- lying flat on the classroom bookshelf
- on the side of the bookshelf
- on the back of the teacher's chair

*Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.*





### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

1

The ostrich is the largest and heaviest species of bird living in the world today. An ostrich can't fly, but it can outrun most of its enemies. It also has powerful legs. An ostrich can injure or kill a lion by kicking it.



### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

2



Hummingbirds are the smallest birds in the world. Unlike most birds, they can hover in one place and fly backwards.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

3

The African gray parrot is thought to be the smartest of all birds. It is also the best talker. It can easily learn to say 900 words or more.



### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

4



Penguins can't fly, but they are great swimmers. They use their flippers for steering themselves underwater. There are no penguins living near the North Pole. They live in South America and Antarctica.



### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

5



Groups of birds have unusual names. A gaggle of geese, a rookery of penguins, a pod of pelicans, a murder of crows, and a brood of chickens all refer to bird groups.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

6



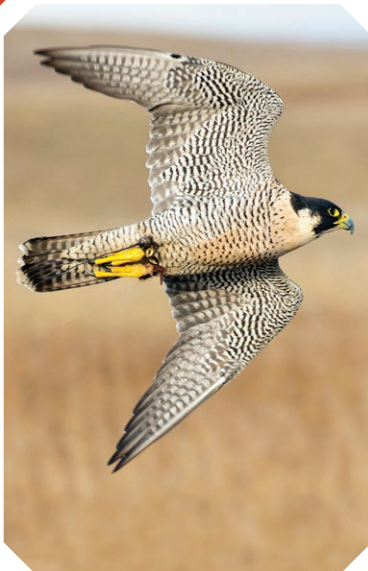
The common loon is the best diver of all the bird species. When it is hunting for fish to eat, it can dive 200 feet (61 meters) below the water's surface.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

7



The peregrine falcon is the fastest flying bird. It can zoom across the open sky at 200 miles (322 kilometers) per hour!

### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

8

In the wild, an ostrich will eat grasses, roots, seeds, and leaves. It also eats insects, lizards, and even small stones. An ostrich at the London Zoo in England once swallowed an alarm clock, a pencil, pennies, and a 3-foot (1 meter) long piece of rope.







### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

9

The most common bird in the world is the chicken. There are more chickens on Earth than people.



### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

10



Bald eagles are known for their excellent eyesight. While soaring in the sky, they can see a fish swimming in the water 100 feet (31 meters) below. An eagle's eyesight is four times as sharp as a person with perfect vision.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

11



Most farmers love having owls around. A single barn owl will eat over 1,000 mice per year.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

12



The Arctic tern has the longest migration of any bird. It flies all the way from the North Pole to the South Pole each year! An average Arctic tern will travel over 1.5 million (2,414,016 kilometers) miles during its lifetime.



### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

**13**



Birds are warm-blooded. This means the temperature inside of their bodies is always the same.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

**14**



All bird species have two feet. There are no four-footed birds.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

**15**

Most of the eggs eaten by people are chicken eggs. Most of the eggs you buy at the store are white or brown, but there are also green and blue chicken eggs as well.



### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

**16**



The kakapo, a parrot species from New Zealand, holds the record for loudest bird. It can make a screech that is heard over 4 miles (6 kilometers) away.



### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

**17**

The largest species of bird that ever lived on Earth was the elephant bird. It could not fly, but it could run very fast. The elephant bird was twice as large as an ostrich. It became extinct about a thousand years ago.

### Scavenger Hunt

## Birds

Fact Card

**18**



A baby owl is called an owlet. A group of owls is called a parliament.

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

Side A

# Birds Scavenger Hunt

**Fact Card 1:** Name two ways an ostrich can protect itself.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 2:** What can hummingbirds do that most other birds can't?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 3:** Which type of bird is thought to be the smartest of all bird species?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 4:** Where do penguins live?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 5:** What is a group of geese called?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 6:** How far underwater can a common loon dive?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 7:** Which is the fastest flying species of bird?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 8:** Name some of the things an ostrich eats in the wild.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 9:** What is the most common bird in the world?

\_\_\_\_\_



# Birds Scavenger Hunt

**Fact Card 10:** How does an eagle's eyesight compare to a person's?

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**Fact Card 11:** Why do farmers like to have owls around?

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**Fact Card 12:** How far does an Arctic tern fly over its lifetime?

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**Fact Card 13:** What does warm-blooded mean?

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**Fact Card 14:** Name all of the bird species that have more than two feet.

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**Fact Card 15:** Name the four colors of chicken eggs.

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**Fact Card 16:** How far away can a kakapo's screech be heard?

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**Fact Card 17:** What was the largest species of bird to ever live on Earth?

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**Fact Card 18:** What is a baby owl called?

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## Birds Scavenger Hunt

- Fact Card 1:** Name two ways an ostrich can protect itself.  
**It can run fast and has a powerful kicking ability.**
- Fact Card 2:** What can hummingbirds do that most other birds can't?  
**It can hover in one place and fly backwards.**
- Fact Card 3:** Which type of bird is thought to be the smartest of all bird species?  
**African gray parrot**
- Fact Card 4:** Where do penguins live?  
**South America and Antarctica**
- Fact Card 5:** What is a group of geese called?  
**gaggle**
- Fact Card 6:** How far underwater can a common loon dive?  
**200 feet**
- Fact Card 7:** Which is the fastest flying species of bird?  
**peregrine falcon**
- Fact Card 8:** Name some of the things an ostrich eats in the wild.  
**grasses, roots, seeds, leaves, insects, lizards, and small stones**
- Fact Card 9:** What is the most common bird in the world?  
**chicken**

## Birds Scavenger Hunt

**Fact Card 10:** How does an eagle's eyesight compare to a person's?

**An eagle's eyesight is four times sharper than a human's.**

**Fact Card 11:** Why do farmers like to have owls around?

**They eat mice.**

**Fact Card 12:** How far does an Arctic tern fly over its lifetime?

**1.5 million miles**

**Fact Card 13:** What does warm-blooded mean?

**Warm-blooded animals have a constant body temperature.**

**Fact Card 14:** Name all of the bird species that have more than two feet.

**None. All birds have two feet.**

**Fact Card 15:** Name the four colors of chicken eggs.

**white, brown, green, or blue**

**Fact Card 16:** How far away can a kakapo's screech be heard?

**4 miles away**

**Fact Card 17:** What was the largest species of bird to ever live on Earth?

**the elephant bird**

**Fact Card 18:** What is a baby owl called?

**an owlet**