

Name: _____

Bird with a Spoon

By Guy Belleranti

Do birds eat with spoons? Of course not. But some birds have bills that look like spoons. And these birds do eat with these bills. These birds are called spoonbills.

Spoonbills have long legs. They wade in shallow muddy water. As they wade they swing their spoon-shaped bills under the water scooping up dinner. What's dinner? Insects, small fish, shrimp, crayfish, and plants.

Spoonbills also pick up sticks and leaves with their bills. They use these things for nests.

There are six species of spoonbills. Five of them are white. These do not live in the United States.



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d. Spoonbills can swim in the water.

2. What is the author's purpose?

- a. to entertain the reader with a story about a bird who uses a spoon
- b. to inform the reader about a type of bird called the spoonbill
- c. to persuade the reader to go to a zoo to see a spoonbill
- d. to inform the reader that the spoonbill is endangered

3. Why do you think spoonbills have long legs?

4. Why is the Roseate spoonbill a good name for this species of spoonbill?

ANSWER KEY

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There are six species of spoonbills. Five of them are white. These do not live in the United States.

The other spoonbill does live in the United States. Much of its body is pink like a rose.



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