Have you ever seen a bird with a wingspan as long as a car? Meet the Albatross! These incredible birds are among the largest flying creatures on Earth, with wings that can stretch up to 11 feet wide. Their bodies are mostly white, but they often have black or gray wings and a big, strong beak which they use to catch their food. They're a sight to see, soaring high above the ocean waves with ease.



Carrying on from their impressive size, let's dive into what these big birds like to eat! Albatrosses are big fans of seafood, with a diet consisting mainly of squid, but they also enjoy a nice serving of krill and other small fish. They're not picky eaters either, sometimes they've been known to snatch food scraps thrown by humans from ships! Their love for fishy treats means they spend most of their life above the open ocean, only coming to land for breeding.

Speaking of breeding, you'll be amazed to learn about the Albatross's life cycle. These birds mate for life, and they return to the same nesting spot every couple of years to lay just one egg. Both parents take turns incubating the egg and the chick stays with its parents for about six months after it hatches. After leaving the nest, they spend most of their lives in flight, only landing to breed and raise their chicks.

Now, you might be wondering how Albatrosses get along with other creatures. Well, they are not aggressive birds and usually keep to themselves. Their main defense against predators, like larger birds, is their incredible ability to stay in flight for long periods. However, their biggest threat is often human activities like fishing, where they can get caught in nets.



So there you have it, the Albatross is a truly unique bird with its massive wingspan, seafood diet, and lifelong partnerships. They've had a tough time due to some human activities, but efforts are being made to protect them and their habitats. Despite their challenges, these birds continue to thrive and amaze us with their incredible flying skills and enduring determination. Let's remember the Albatross, not just as a bird, but as a symbol of the wild, untamed beauty of our oceans.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

1) What is the wingspan of an Albatross?

A. up to 5 feet wide B. up to 11 feet wide C. up to 8 feet wide D. up to 6 feet wide

2) What is the main defense of Albatrosses against predators?

A. They have a strong bite. B. They are very fast runners.

C. They can release a strong odor. D. Their ability to stay in flight for long periods.

3) Are Albatrosses aggressive birds?

A. No, they are extremely friendly birds. B. Yes, they are slightly aggressive

D. No, they are not aggressive birds. C. Yes, they are very aggressive birds.

4) How often do Albatrosses come to land?

A. Every month for food. B. Every year to change their feathers.

C. Every day to rest. D. Only for breeding.

5) Where do Albatrosses spend most of their life?

A. On mountain ranges. B. Above the open ocean.

C. In forests and jungles. D. In cities and towns.

6) How many eggs do Albatrosses lay at a time?

A. four eggs B. one egg C. three eggs D. two eggs

7) How long do Albatross chicks stay with their parents after they hatch?

A. About two weeks B. About six months

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8) What color are the bodies of Albatrosses?

A. Mostly black. B. Mostly blue. C. Mostly gray. D. Mostly white.

9) What color are the wings of Albatrosses?

A. Black or gray. B. Green. C. White. D. Brown.

10) What is the main diet of Albatrosses?

A. Seeds and plants. B. Seafood, mainly squid. C. Bread and other human food. D. Insects and small animals.

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

11) "I leave my chick alone after it hatches."



- 12) "I spend most of my life on land."
- 13) "I don't like to stay on land so much, I spend most of my life flying over the ocean."
- 14) "I have a special talent for staying above sea for a long time."
- 15) "I'm a tiny bird with a small wingspan."
- **16**) "Did you know that I eat fish and krill?"
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- **19**) "I stay close to land."
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- 23) "Once I find a partner, I will stick to them for life."
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- 28) "I have wings as wide as a car and I can fly over the ocean waves, way up in the sky."

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 29) Albatross chicks stay with their parents for about six months after they hatch.
- **30)** Albatrosses are way cuter than other big birds like ostriches.
- **31**) Albatrosses produce only one egg at a time.
- 32) The albatross's ability to catch food in the open ocean is really impressive.
- 33) Albatrosses have mostly white bodies with black or grey wings.
- 34) The way albatrosses return to the same nesting spot every few years is amazing.
- 35) Albatrosses protect themselves from larger birds by staying in flight for extended periods of time.
- **36)** Albatrosses primarily consume seafood such as squid, small fish, and krill.
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Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **39**) Albatrosses spend most of their lives in flight.
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- **44)** The albatross spends most of their life on land.
- **45**) Albatrosses have a wingspan that can stretch up to 20 feet wide.
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- **49**) Albatross can have a wingspan of over 11 feet.
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	Albatross	Name:
1.	26.	51.
2.	27.	52.
3.	28.	53.
4.	29.	54
5.	30.	
6.	31.	
7.	32.	
8.	33.	
9.	34.	
10.	35.	
11.	36.	
12.	37.	
13.	38.	
14.	39.	
15.	40.	
16.	41.	
17.	42.	
18.	43.	
19.	44.	
20.	45.	
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22.	47.	
23.	48.	
24.	49.	
25	50.	

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Albatross Name: Answer Key

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			Albatross			Name:	Answer Key
1.	В	26	false	51.	declarative		
2.	D	27	true	52.	declarative	_	
3.	D	28	true	53.	interrogative		
4.	D	29	fact	54.	interrogative	_	
5.	В	30	opinion				
6.	В	31	fact				
7.	В	32	opinion				
8.	D	33	fact				
9.	A	34	opinion				
10.	B	35	fact				
11.	false	36	fact				
12.	false	37	opinion				
13.	true	38	opinion				
14.	true	39	true				
15.	false	40.	false				
16.	true	41	true				
17.	true	42	false				
18.	false	43	true				
19.	false	44	false				
20.	false	45	false				
21.	false	46	false				
22.	true	47	true				
23.	true	48	true				

Reading

true

true

24.

declarative

interrogative

49.

50.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to	answer t	he question.
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1) What is the wingspan of an Albatross? (paragraph 1)

A. up to 5 feet wide

B. up to 11 feet wide

D.

C.

2) What is the main defense of Albatrosses against predators? (paragraph 4)

A.

B. They are very fast runners.

C.

D. Their ability to stay in flight for long periods.

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B. Yes, they are slightly aggressive

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B. Every year to change their feathers.

C.

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C.

D.

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C.

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Albatross

Name:

- 11) "I leave my chick alone after it hatches." (paragraph 3)
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