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Flapping from their eye-catching looks, let's swoop into their fascinating habitats. California gulls are found in the western parts of North America, especially, as the name suggests, in California. But they aren't just beach bums, you can also find them in deserts and even in the mountains! During breeding season, they build nests near water bodies like lakes, and lay 2 or 3 eggs at a time.

After exploring their homes, it's time to delve into their diet and daily life. These gulls are omnivores, munching on everything from insects, fish, small mammals, to even the food they find in our trash cans! They have a pretty friendly relationship with humans, often seen hanging around us in hopes of grabbing a few food scraps. They're also known to help farmers by eating harmful insects, but can sometimes become a nuisance when they flock in large numbers.



From their interactions with us, let's fly into some fun facts and the differences between California gulls and other species. Did you know that the California gull is the state bird of Utah, not California? Unlike some other gull species, California gulls migrate south during winter, in search of warmer weather. So there you have it, an exciting journey into the life of the California gull, an animal that's so much more than just another bird at the beach.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) Do California gulls help farmers?
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 - A. Arizona
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 - A. Near water bodies like lakes
 - B. In tall trees
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 - A. 6 or 7
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- 12)** Which best describes adult california gulls eating habits?
- A. Carnivores
B. They do not eat when they are grown
C. Herbivores
D. Omnivores
- 13)** Where are California gulls usually found?
- A. Northern parts of North America
B. Eastern parts of North America
C. Western parts of North America
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Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 14) "Unlike some other gulls, we fly south during winter for some warmth."
- 15) "I lay 50 eggs at a time. It's a lot of work, but seeing my little ones hatch is worth it!"
- 16) "We have a natural aversion to humans. If humans come close, we'll attack furiously."
- 17) "We are strictly beach birds."
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- 19) "We don't just eat fish, we eat bugs too! Sometimes we even eat the food we find in your trash cans!"
- 20) "Our eyes are a vibrant blue."
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- 24) "As a creature, I must tell you, I strictly adhere to a vegetarian diet. Nothing beats the crunch of fresh leaves and stems!"
- 25) "With my white body, grey wings, and yellow beak with a black ring, I am quite a stylish bird!"
- 26) "We are the largest species of gulls."

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

- 27) California gulls build nests close to water sources like lakes.
- 28) California gulls are the most beautiful animals with their white body, grey wings, and yellow beak.
- 29) California gulls are found mainly in western parts of North America, especially California.
- 30) California gulls are the best due to their friendly relationship with humans.
- 31) California gulls have brown eyes that are almost black.
- 32) It is weird that California gulls are the state bird of Utah.
- 33) California gulls are usually friendly to humans and can often be found around them, hoping to get some food scraps.
- 34) California gulls have greenish-yellow legs.
- 35) The vibrant greenish-yellow legs of California gulls are the best feature they have.



- 36) The most annoying thing about California gulls is when they flock together in large numbers.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 37) California gulls have a white body.
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- 41) California gulls migrate south during winter.
- 42) California gulls lay over 30 eggs at a time.
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- 44) Unlike some other bird species, California gulls do not migrate during winter.
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- 47) California gulls migrate to different places during the year.
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|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
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| 17. _____ | 42. _____ | |
| 18. _____ | 43. _____ | |
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| 20. _____ | 45. _____ | |
| 21. _____ | 46. _____ | |
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- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>D</u> | 26. <u>false</u> | 51. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 2. <u>C</u> | 27. <u>fact</u> | 52. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 3. <u>C</u> | 28. <u>opinion</u> | |
| 4. <u>D</u> | 29. <u>fact</u> | |
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| 19. <u>true</u> | 44. <u>false</u> | |
| 20. <u>false</u> | 45. <u>true</u> | |
| 21. <u>false</u> | 46. <u>true</u> | |
| 22. <u>false</u> | 47. <u>declarative</u> | |
| 23. <u>true</u> | 48. <u>interrogative</u> | |
| 24. <u>false</u> | 49. <u>declarative</u> | |
| 25. <u>true</u> | 50. <u>declarative</u> | |



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