



National Geographic Kids: Penguins

Second Reading: Text & Vocabulary

Because of the wealth of information in the text, there are many possible questions to discuss. Choose the questions that interest your listener and you. As you know, the questions in a Practickle guide require higher-order thinking and the use of evidence from the text and photographs to support answers.

*Read the chapters before you begin the discussion.

Pages 4 - 5:

This text talks about how different penguins are from other birds. Why do you think scientists have placed penguins in the bird family?

Pages 6 - 7:

- Why might some penguins be able to live where it is so very cold?

Pages 8 - 11:

- On page 9, **sleek**: smooth. By looking at the photograph, what makes a penguin **sleek**? Why might having a sleek shape help a penguin increase speed through the water?
- On page 9, **blubber**: a layer of fat under the skin. How might a layer of **blubber** help a penguin stay warm?
- Why might a penguin need to go faster than 15 mph?

Pages 12 - 15:

- Are penguins predators? Explain your answer.
- What does **fish-elicious** mean?
- How might penguins protect themselves from the different predators that hunt them?



National Geographic Kids: Penguins

Second Reading: Text & Vocabulary

Pages 16 - 17:

- Why do you think penguins live in such large colonies?

Pages 18 - 21:

- Why might so few penguin eggs survive?

Pages 22 - 25:

- Why might the emperor penguins select nesting grounds so far from the ocean?
- Why might the mother emperor penguin be gone for so long?
- How does the snow help the father to survive?
- What kind of food do you think the baby emperor penguins eat until the family travels back to the ocean?

Pages 26 - 29:

- The emperor penguin's size helps it survive. Agree or disagree. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Pages 30 - 31:

- Why isn't life easy for a penguin? What might the hardest part of a penguin's life be?