



National Geographic Kids: Penguins

First Reading: Illustrations

Penguins is set up like a textbook, complete with a Table of Contents and a glossary. Combining the chapter title with the details in the amazing National Geographic photographs will provide the basis for rich initial discussions about penguins. Focusing on the photographs will lay the foundation for understanding the text and new vocabulary during the Second Reading.

The pages are already numbered. We'll study the photographs in each chapter as a unit.

Pages 4 - 5:

- Using the photograph and the chapter title, discuss what you already know about penguins.

Pages 6 - 7:

- According to this map, where in the world would I go to find penguins?
- Using the BIRD WORDS box, why do you think all penguins seem to live on coasts?
- According to this map, would polar bears and penguins live near each other?

Pages 8 - 11:

*Note the penguin joke in the top margin.

- From the information in the photos, how are penguins similar to birds?
- How are penguins different from birds?
- How do penguins steer through the water?
- On pages 10 - 11, note the new penguin joke in the top margin. Connect it to the action in the photograph.



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Pages 12 - 15:

*Yet another penguin joke!

- Discuss the shape of the penguin's beak and tongue. How might these two unique features help the penguin catch food?
- On pages 14 and 15, what might the penguins and the bird be saying to each other?

Pages 16 - 17:

- Why might penguins choose to live in a colony?
- Thinking about the information in the previous photographs where might this colony of penguins be found?

Pages 18 - 21:

- How do penguin chicks seem like other chicks? How do the penguin chicks seem different from other chicks?
- On page 21, what kind of food might the chick be eating?

Pages 22 - 25:

- Where might these emperor penguins be going?
- The chapter title is "The Longest March", how long do you think the march of the emperor penguins might be?
- On page 23, at what might the two emperor penguins be looking?



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Pages 26 - 29:

What are some of the differences you notice between the species of penguins?

Pages 30 - 31:

- From the photographs, what kinds of activities do penguins seem to enjoy when they play?

FOR POSSIBLE DISCUSSION:

- After looking at all of the photographs, what kinds of activities might you see a penguin doing on a normal day?
- Do you think an emperor penguin might spend a day engaged in the same activities as a fairy penguin?