
Beautiful Birds

Reading Comprehension

Peacocks

The peacock is a bird that is known for its beautiful tail feathers that it fans out in a colourful display. Only the male peacock has these beautiful coloured feathers though. The female peahen has very dull feathers that are dull green, brown, or grey. Although the correct name for a male is peacock and the correct name for a female is peahen, both males and females are commonly referred to as peacocks.

The tail feathers of the male peacock are gorgeous iridescent blue and green colours. It is magical to see these feathers on display. When they are not being displayed, the feathers trail on the ground behind the peacock's body. Peacocks only display their feathers when they are startled, in danger, or in search of a mate.

The peacock is an omnivore, which means that it eats both plants and animals. Peacocks usually eat parts of plants including seeds and the petals of flowers. They will also eat small reptiles and amphibians. To help protect it from predators, peacocks have spurs on their feet.

The peacock is native to India and Sri Lanka, but today they are present in many other countries around the world. Unlike other birds, these beautiful birds do not migrate. They build shallow nests made out of organic materials like sticks, leaves, and branches. Usually these nests are found in the undergrowth. The peahen will lay between one and four eggs in the nest.

Story Questions:

1. What can you infer about the peacock after reading this passage?
 - a. Peacocks are shy animals.
 - b. Peacocks can reach speeds of up to 50 kilometres per hour.
 - c. Peacocks keep moving around because they are nomadic animals.
 - d. People brought peacocks to other countries.

2. Which statement can be deemed as true after reading the passage?
 - a. The peacock is very fast.
 - b. The peacock is not a migratory bird.
 - c. The peacock enjoys interacting with humans.
 - d. The peacock is an interesting animal with an interesting history.

3. Peacocks are native to which of the following places?
- farms
 - zoos
 - India and Sri Lanka
 - none of the above

Story Writing

4. **Write** a story using the following story starter:
The pigeon wanted to look like a peacock...

Math Worksheet

5. **Practise** [converting fractions, decimals, and percents](#).

Word Problems

6. **Read** the word problems below and **write** the answers.
- ★ Penny Peacock bought a bag with 60 chocolate-covered cookies. She gave $\frac{1}{4}$ of the cookies to her sister, Piper. She gave $\frac{1}{3}$ of them to her brother, Parker, and 20% to her best friend, Penelope. How many cookies did she give away? How many cookies does she have left? What percentage of the total does she still have left?

 - ★ Penny's mother bought a bag of 50 iridescent candies. She gave Piper 12% of the candies, and gave Parker 0.2 of the candies. Penny received 0.32 of the candies. How many candies did each child receive? How many candies were left? What percentage of the candies were left?

Fun Stuff!

7. [Draw your own peacock](#). Once you've drawn your peacock, bring it to life with oil pastels, paint, pencil crayons, or a mix of mediums.