

Penguins

Penguins tend to be popular birds with children because of the way they waddle!

Penguins are flightless birds.

– While other birds have wings for flying, penguins have adapted flippers to help them swim in the water.

– Most penguins live in the Southern Hemisphere.



– The Galapagos Penguin is the only penguin species that ventures north of the equator in the wild.

– Large penguin populations can be found in countries such as New Zealand, Australia, Chile, Argentina and South Africa.

– No penguins live at the North Pole.

– Penguins eat a range of fish and other sealife that they catch underwater.

– Penguins can drink sea water.

– Penguins spend around half their time in water and the other half on land.

– The Emperor Penguin is the tallest of all penguin species, reaching as tall as 120 cm (47 in) in height.

– Emperor Penguins can stay underwater for around 20 minutes at a time.

– Emperor Penguins often huddle together to keep warm in the cold temperatures of Antarctica.



– King Penguins are the second largest penguin species. They have four layers of feathers to help keep them warm on the cold sub Antarctic islands where they breed.

– Chinstrap Penguins get their name from the thin black band under their head. At times it looks like they're wearing a black helmet, which might be useful as they're considered the most aggressive type of penguin.



– Crested penguins have yellow crests, as well as red bills and eyes.

– Yellow eyed penguins (or Hoiho) are endangered penguins native to New Zealand. Their population is believed to be around 4000.

– Little Blue Penguins are the smallest type of penguin, averaging around 33 cm (13 in) in height.

– A Penguin's black and white plumage serves as camouflage while swimming. The black plumage on their back is hard to see from above, while the white plumage on their front looks like the sun reflecting off the surface of the water when seen from below.

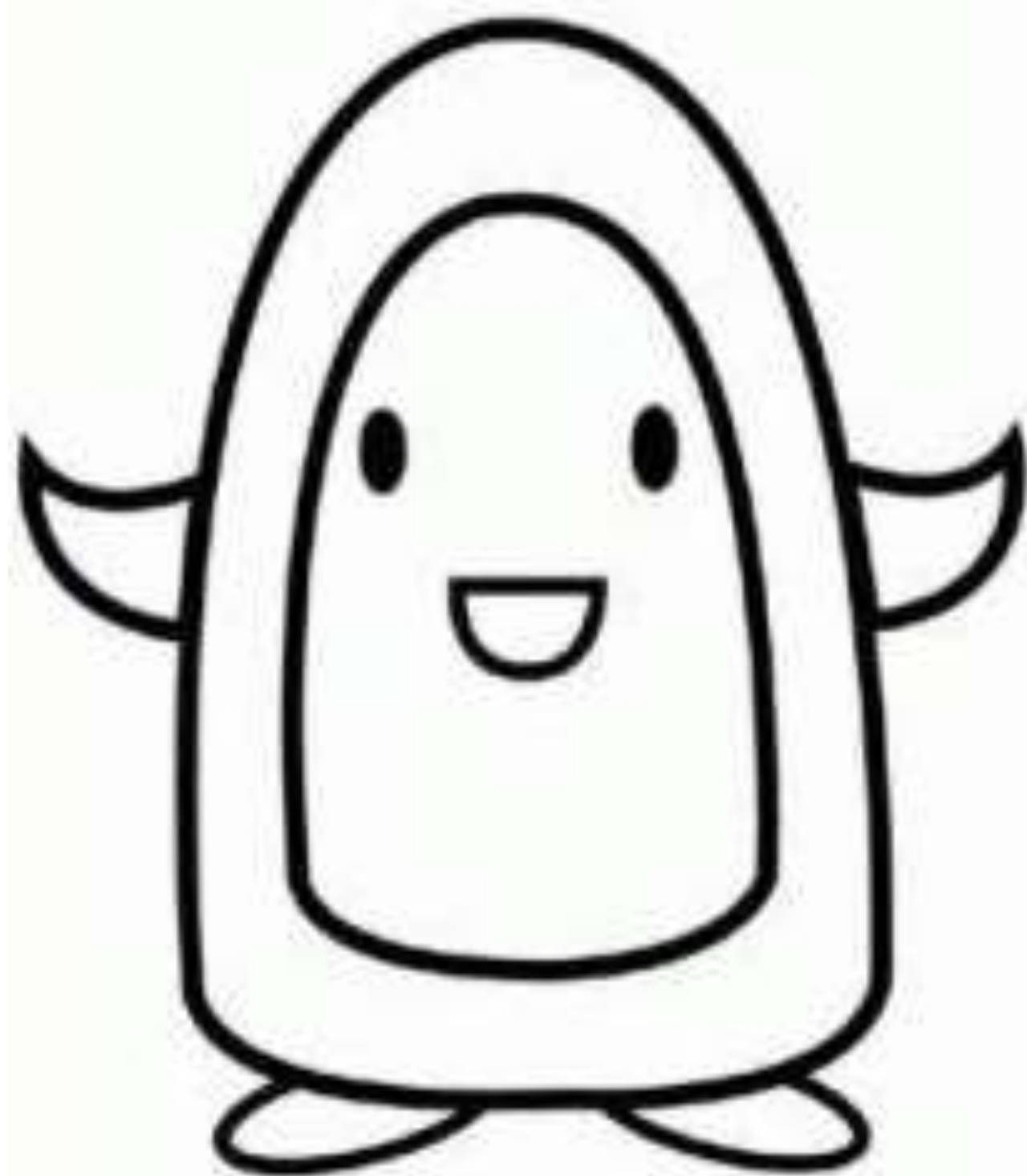
– Penguins in Antarctica have no land based predators.



25th April is World Penguin Day!

Some Interesting Facts...

- Penguins can swim faster, and dive deeper, than any other bird. The fastest species of penguin is the gentoo penguin, which can swim at up to 22mph.
- In some species of Penguin, when a male courts a female, it usually offers rocks as a gift!
- The name penguin was originally given to the now-extinct great auk, which was a large, flightless, black and white bird.
- Penguin droppings (known as guano) can vary in colour depending on what they eat. Eating fish results in white guano, and eating krill turns it pink!
- Penguins can cope with drinking salt water because they have special glands that drain the liquid out of the nose and expel salt.





Penguin

Description:

Where do they live?

Size:

Life span:

Habitat:

Diet:

How do they behave?

Status:

