



Dear Educator,

This file offers views of some of the worksheets in our “**Birds of the Sea**” thematic unit. The cover for an eWorkbook is shown followed by the preview pages.

The “**Birds of the Sea**” unit offers **15 pages**.

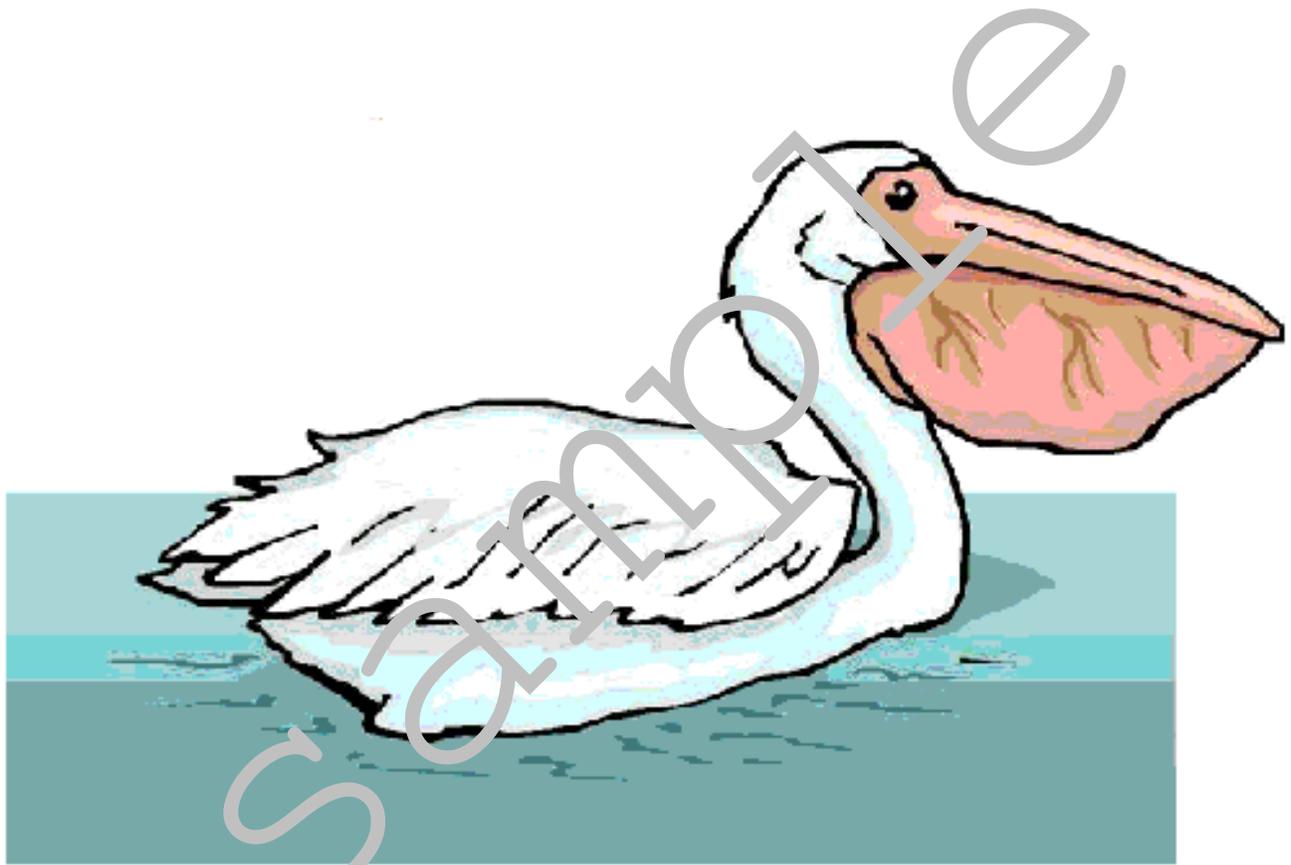
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Birds of the Sea



Birds of the Sea



Sea birds are some of the healthiest birds in the world.

It is not at all unusual for some species to live as long as fifty years!

Something special about the salt water, the sea air and the ebb and flow of the tides give sea birds longer life-spans.

It is us and our love of the sea that has threatened the longevity of sea birds.

It is important to know how we can help preserve the sea and shore to let these sea birds live long and healthy lives.

Some characteristics of seabirds may surprise you. As mentioned before, some seabirds fly nearly all the time and others cannot fly at all. Most birds of the sea have waterproof plumage; others do not. None of them can walk well. Why do you think that is?



Adaptation is a very important for birds of the sea. They have to deal with variations of climate and meeting their specific needs for food, rest and nesting. We will explore the way certain seabirds have adapted, you may also do some research about other birds you are interested in.

Read the words below. Write a definition for each on the lines.

1. plumage _____

2. adaptation _____

Birds of the Sea

Diving Seabirds

Birds that dive under the water have unusual adaptations to their bodies. Their legs are more behind them than under them. That is also one of the reasons sea birds don't walk so well. Diver birds also have wider webbed feet for speedier catching of their prey.

Below is information on some birds that dive.

Petrel: Petrels are great fliers, underwater! A flock of these petrels will dive straight into a huge wave and come right out on the other side. They are remarkably strong.

Cormorant: Cormorants flatten themselves out to move quickly. They put their wings flat up on the sides of their bodies and zoom through the sea.



Puffins: Puffins are excellent diving sea birds. Their wings move up and down so that they are actually flying under the water. Like petrels and penguins, the puffins' wings work like paddles to make them very strong swimmers.



Penguin: The best of the divers are the penguins. The shape of a penguin's body is ideal for moving quickly underwater. Penguins can only "fly" under the sea. Penguins live only in and around Antarctica.



Auk: Auks, which look quite a lot like penguins, are not related to them. Auks can fly, and they live in the Arctic.

Birds of the Sea

CRISS CROSS

Can you fit these words into the criss cross?
Use a pencil so you can erase if you need to.

eggs
gull

sand
egret

heron
ocean

pelican
seacoast

