



Ever seen a bird that's taller than your dad? Cue the ostrich, the tallest bird on the planet! These feathery giants can reach up to 9 feet tall, that's taller than any other bird in the world. They have long, skinny legs, a big body covered in fluffy feathers, and a small head with big, round eyes. And don't forget their wings, which are huge but not big enough to make these big birds fly.

You may wonder where such a magnificent creature lives. Mostly found in the warm savannas and grasslands of Africa, they enjoy a sunny and open environment. They can withstand high temperatures and don't need a lot of water, which makes them perfect for the African climate. With their keen eyesight and amazing speed, they can escape most dangers in these wide open spaces.

Now, let's talk about their diet and their relationship with others in the animal kingdom. Ostriches are omnivores, which means they eat both plants and small animals. Their meals consist mainly of seeds, shrubs, grass, fruit, and occasionally insects, lizards or other small creatures that they can catch. They live in small herds, and while they can be a meal for lions or cheetahs, their powerful kicks can be a serious defense.



Humans and ostriches have had a long history together. We've been fascinated by these unique birds for centuries, using their feathers for decoration, their eggs for food, and their leather for clothes. Some people even race ostriches for sport! So, from their towering height to their surprising speed, ostriches are truly one-of-a-kind birds that show us how diverse and fascinating the animal kingdom can be.

**Solve each problem.****Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) What is the tallest bird on the planet?
 - A. Peacock
 - B. Eagle
 - C. Penguin
 - D. Ostrich
- 2) Can ostriches withstand high temperatures?
 - A. Only adult ostriches
 - B. Yes
 - C. Only young ostriches
 - D. No
- 3) Can ostriches fly?
 - A. No
 - B. Only when they are adults
 - C. Only when they are young
 - D. Yes
- 4) What is the unusual sport that involves ostriches?
 - A. Playing soccer with ostriches
 - B. Ostrich wrestling
 - C. Racing ostriches
 - D. Jousting on ostriches
- 5) What is one of the defenses of an ostrich?
 - A. Their sharp beaks
 - B. Their strong wings
 - C. Their loud voice
 - D. Their powerful kicks
- 6) How tall can an ostrich reach?
 - A. Up to 5 feet
 - B. Up to 6 feet
 - C. Up to 9 feet
 - D. Up to 7 feet
- 7) Where do ostriches mostly live?
 - A. In the savannas and grasslands of Africa
 - B. In the tundras of Antarctica
 - C. In the deserts of Australia
 - D. In the forests of South America
- 8) What is the diet of ostriches?
 - A. Ostriches are carnivores
 - B. Ostriches are herbivores
 - C. Ostriches are omnivores
 - D. Ostriches are insectivores
- 9) What is the diet of ostriches mostly composed of?
 - A. Nuts, berries, and honey
 - B. Cheese, crackers, and fruits
 - C. Seeds, shrubs, and grass
 - D. Fish, meat, and bread
- 10) How do ostriches live?
 - A. They live alone
 - B. They live in pairs
 - C. They live in large flocks
 - D. They live in small herds

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 11) "My wings are super tiny."
- 12) "I can't see very well."



- 13) "I have long skinny legs that hold up my fluffy body."
- 14) "I am shorter than most birds."
- 15) "I prefer eating only plants."
- 16) "Flying is my most favorite thing to do."
- 17) "I don't really need a lot of water."
- 18) "If a lion tries to make a meal of me, my powerful kicks can protect me!"
- 19) "Even though I have wings, I can't fly." But I am sure great at running!
- 20) "Lions and Cheetahs are my best buddies."
- 21) "I like to live in forests."
- 22) "Humans and I do not interact much."
- 23) "The warm land of Africa is my home. I just love the sun and open spaces!"
- 24) "I can't run very fast."
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- 26) "I love munching on seeds, shrubs, and fruit."
- 27) "My sharp eyes and speedy legs help me escape from dangers!"
- 28) "I like to live alone."
- 29) "Standing 9 feet tall, I am the tallest bird on Earth!"
- 30) "If I can catch them, I'll eat insects, lizards or other small creatures."

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 31) Ostriches can survive high temperatures and don't require lots of water.
- 32) Ostrich racing must be the most exciting sport to watch.
- 33) The natural habitat of ostriches is the warm savannas and grasslands of Africa.
- 34) It's odd that ostriches live in places with high temperatures but don't need a lot of water.
- 35) An ostrich is the tallest bird on earth.
- 36) The noise an ostrich makes is really funny.
- 37) An ostrich's diet consists of both plants and small animals.
- 38) An ostrich can't fly even though it has large wings.
- 39) With their long legs and fluffy feathers, ostriches are the most interesting looking birds.
- 40) Being able to withstand attacks from lions or cheetahs, ostriches are surely the toughest birds.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 41) Ostrich eggs are used for food by humans.
- 42) The Ostrich lives in a large herd with hundreds of other ostriches.
- 43) Ostriches are able to withstand high temperatures.
- 44) Ostriches are carnivores who only eat other small creatures.
- 45) Ostriches don't need a lot of water.
- 46) Ostriches are typically around 2 or 3 feet tall.



71) Ostriches can live up to 40 to 45 years, what a long life!



- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 28. _____ | 53. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 29. _____ | 54. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 30. _____ | 55. _____ |
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|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u> D </u> | 26. <u> true </u> | 51. <u> B </u> |
| 2. <u> B </u> | 27. <u> true </u> | 52. <u> A </u> |
| 3. <u> A </u> | 28. <u> false </u> | 53. <u> D </u> |
| 4. <u> C </u> | 29. <u> true </u> | 54. <u> A </u> |
| 5. <u> D </u> | 30. <u> true </u> | 55. <u> C </u> |
| 6. <u> C </u> | 31. <u> fact </u> | 56. <u> declarative </u> |
| 7. <u> A </u> | 32. <u> opinion </u> | 57. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 8. <u> C </u> | 33. <u> fact </u> | 58. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 9. <u> C </u> | 34. <u> opinion </u> | 59. <u> exclamatory </u> |
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