



Do you want to meet an exotic, vibrant bird with a crown? Let's get acquainted with kingfishers! These stunning birds are instantly recognizable, thanks to their bright, flashy colors and large, pointy beaks. Kingfishers are usually small to medium-sized birds and their dazzling feathers can be blue, green, gold, and even orange! And did you know? Their name 'kingfisher' comes from their exceptional skill at catching fish.

Speaking of catching fish, let's dive into what these royal birds eat. While their name suggests they only eat fish, kingfishers are actually opportunistic eaters and their diet isn't limited to just aquatic creatures. They also feast on invertebrates, small mammals, and even other birds! So, whether it's a river, a lake, or a backyard pond, if there's food, kingfishers are sure to be nearby.



Now that we know what they eat, let's take a flight to their homes across the globe. Kingfishers live almost everywhere except the polar regions, deserts, and some islands. Their nests are burrows dug into earth banks, and the female typically lays between 3 to 7 eggs. After three weeks of incubation, the chicks hatch, and both parents help in feeding and raising the young.

☐ From their colorful plumage to their wide diet, kingfishers are truly fascinating birds, but how do they interact with us and other animals? Humans and kingfishers can coexist peacefully, especially when we respect their habitats and ensure they have clean environments to thrive in.

As for other animals, kingfishers are solitary birds and prefer to do things on their own, unless it's the breeding season. And here's a fun fact to remember about these amazing birds: their colorful feathers aren't just for show, they also act as camouflage to protect them from predators!



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) Why are the birds called kingfishers?
 - A. Because of their exceptional skill at catching fish
 - B. Because of their crown-like feathers
 - C. Because they only eat king-sized fish
 - D. Because they are the king of all birds
- 2) What do kingfishers eat besides fish?
 - A. Invertebrates, small mammals, and other birds
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 - C. Nuts, insects, and leaves
 - D. Fish, plants, and pond slime
- 3) How many eggs does a female kingfisher typically lay?
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 - A. In dense bushes
 - B. In the tallest branch of a tree
 - C. They do not build nests
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- 6) If you were looking for a kingfishers in the wild where would be the best place to look?
 - A. A lake
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- 7) How long is the incubation period for kingfisher eggs?
 - A. Two days
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- 8) What is the purpose of a kingfisher bird's colorful feathers, apart from being pretty?
 - A. They help the bird fly faster
 - B. They attract insects for the bird to eat
 - C. They change color to show the bird's mood
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- 9) Do kingfishers help in feeding and raising their young?
 - A. They leave the young on their own
 - B. Only the male helps in raising the young
 - C. Only the female kingfisher helps
 - D. Both male and female kingfishers help
- 10) What region do kingfishers not live in?
 - A. Savannas
 - B. Mountain regions
 - C. Tropical forests
 - D. Polar regions



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

- 11) "My feathers can be green, gold, and even orange!"
- 12) "Even though we are colorful, our feathers actually help us hide by blending with the surroundings."
- 13) "My brightly colored feathers make me pretty noticeable."
- 14) "I don't like to be near water bodies, since I'm not a good swimmer."
- 15) "I live almost everywhere in the world, except the really cold or really hot places."
- 16) "I never lay eggs, you're thinking of another bird."
- 17) "I eat only worms and insects."
- 18) "I eat more than just fish, I also love munching on insects, small mammals, and even other birds sometimes!"
- 19) "You might be able to spot me in your own backyard if you've got a pond."
- 20) "Once my chicks hatch, both I and my partner feed and take care of them till they can fly on their own."
- 21) "I'm bad at catching fish."
- 22) "I only spend 3 weeks in an egg."
- 23) "I only eat fish, nothing else."
- 24) "My beak isn't just for show, you know. I use it to catch all sorts of food, not just fish."
- 25) "My feathers are dull and colorless."
- 26) "I can live anywhere, even deserts."
- 27) "I got my name because I'm the 'king' of fishers."

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

- 28) A female kingfisher typically lays between 3 to 7 eggs.
- 29) The way kingfishers build their nests is very interesting.
- 30) Kingfishers make nests by digging burrows into earth banks.
- 31) It is impressive how kingfishers can fly at high speeds.
- 32) Kingfishers are birds known for their skill in catching fish.
- 33) The way that both parents take care of the kingfishers chicks is amazing.
- 34) Kingfisher chicks hatch after around three weeks of incubation.
- 35) Kingfishers not only eat fish, but also small mammals, other birds, and invertebrates.
- 36) The vibrant feathers of kingfishers make them more beautiful than other birds.
- 37) It is incredible how kingfishers can dive into water to catch fish.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 38) Kingfishers may lay up to 7 eggs.
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- 41) The kingfisher's diet consists only of fish.
- 42) Kingfishers may eat other birds.
- 43) Kingfishers prefer to live in large groups often numbering in the thousands.
- 44) Kingfishers live primarily in the desert.
- 45) Kingfishers make their nests in trees.
- 46) Male and female kingfishers help in feeding their young.
- 47) Kingfishers chicks hatch after only 3 weeks.

Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

- 48) I've seen a kingfisher dive straight into the water.
A. I am
C. I was
B. I have
D. I will
- 49) Kingfishers in Canada don't stay there during winter, they migrate south.
A. do not
C. can not
B. will not
D. aren't
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- 51) A kingfisher's diet isn't just fish, but also insects.
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- 52) Did you know the kingfisher doesn't make a nest, but a burrow?
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Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 53) Kingfishers build their nests by digging tunnels into river banks or using tree holes.
- 54) Kingfishers can see underwater and that's a superpower!
- 55) The fact that some Kingfishers nest in riverbanks is unbelievable!
- 56) There are about 90 species of Kingfishers in the world, that variety is astonishing!
- 57) The barking-like sound of a Kingfisher is both funny and unusual!
- 58) Kingfishers have a long, sharp beak that they use to catch fish.
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- 64) Do kingfishers live near water?
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| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
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| 4. _____ | 29. _____ | 54. _____ |
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|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>A</u> | 26. <u>false</u> | 51. <u>A</u> |
| 2. <u>A</u> | 27. <u>true</u> | 52. <u>C</u> |
| 3. <u>B</u> | 28. <u>fact</u> | 53. <u>declarative</u> |
| 4. <u>A</u> | 29. <u>opinion</u> | 54. <u>exclamatory</u> |
| 5. <u>D</u> | 30. <u>fact</u> | 55. <u>exclamatory</u> |
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| 9. <u>D</u> | 34. <u>fact</u> | 59. <u>interrogative</u> |
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| 23. <u>false</u> | 48. <u>B</u> | |
| 24. <u>true</u> | 49. <u>A</u> | |
| 25. <u>false</u> | 50. <u>D</u> | |



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