



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 they only eat king-sized fish
 - B. Because of their crown-like feathers
 - C. Because of their exceptional skill at catching fish
 - D. Because they are the king of all birds

- 2) What do kingfishers eat besides fish?
 - A. Grass, seeds, and fruits
 - B. Fish, plants, and pond slime
 - C. Invertebrates, small mammals, and other birds
 - D. Nuts, insects, and leaves

- 3) How many eggs does a female kingfisher typically lay?
 - A. More than 15 eggs
 - B. Between 10 to 12 eggs
 - C. Only 1 egg
 - D. Between 3 to 7 eggs

- 4) What colors can a kingfisher's feathers be?
 - A. Blue, green, gold, and orange
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- 5) Where do kingfishers build their nests?
 - A. They do not build nests
 - B. In dense bushes
 - C. In burrows dug into earth banks
 - D. In the tallest branch of a tree

- 6) If you were looking for a kingfishers in the wild where would be the best place to look?
 - A. In a jungle
 - B. A lake
 - C. The desert
 - D. In a cave

- 7) How long is the incubation period for kingfisher eggs?
 - A. One year
 - B. Three weeks
 - C. Six months
 - D. Two days

- 8) What is the purpose of a kingfisher bird's colorful feathers, apart from being pretty?
 - A. They act as camouflage to protect them from predators
 - B. They attract insects for the bird to eat
 - C. They help the bird fly faster
 - D. They change color to show the bird's mood

- 9) Do kingfishers help in feeding and raising their young?
 - A. Only the female kingfisher helps
 - B. They leave the young on their own
 - C. Only the male helps in raising the young
 - D. Both male and female kingfishers help

- 10) What region do kingfishers not live in?
 - A. Savannas
 - B. Tropical forests
 - C. Polar regions
 - D. Mountain 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."
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- 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.
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Determine if the statement is true or false.

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- 64) Do kingfishers live near water?
- 65) Kingfishers dive into the water at a lightning speed, that's incredible fast!
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Solve each problem.

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| 5. <u> C </u> | 30. <u> fact </u> | 55. <u> exclamatory </u> |
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| 10. <u> C </u> | 35. <u> fact </u> | 60. <u> exclamatory </u> |
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