



## Educational Reader's Guide: Activities and Questions



You're welcome to use some, or all, of these questions: on your own, with a class, or in conversation with friends and family. You'll find more resources and free downloads on *Every Penguin's* [book page](#).

### Watch Penguins from Home

- Penguins in zoos:** Use the internet to look up the zoo closest to where you live. Does it have penguins in its collection of animals? If that zoo doesn't have penguins, look for another zoo that does. You'll find that many zoos in the United States and other countries have penguins. Please answer the following questions:
  - What's the name of the zoo that has penguins, closest to where you live?
  - What species of penguins does the zoo have? Where are these penguins found in the wild?
  - Does your zoo have a live stream of its penguins?
  - Is there any information online about the zookeepers who take care of the penguins at your zoo? What can you learn about the zookeepers work with the penguins?
  - What do you think life is like for penguins at the zoo?
- Penguins live-streamed:** Some zoos have a live stream or video feed of the penguins that live there. You can also watch wild penguins online. The Chicago Zoo offered a very popular video of penguins out of their enclosure during the 2020 corona virus pandemic. The Edinburgh Zoo has video of penguins during feeding time. The Cincinnati Zoo put king and emperor penguins on live stream for its "Home Safari." Please look up a zoo with video live stream. Watch the video(s) and answer the following questions:
  - What species of penguins are these?
  - What activities or behaviors do you notice?
  - What are the sounds the penguins make?
  - What do you enjoy most about watching these penguins?

3. **Counting penguins:** Look up the Penguin Watch research project to study penguins in the wild, using one of the links below. What does it do? What has Penguin Watch learned about penguins?  
<https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/penguintom79/penguin-watch>  
<https://www.facebook.com/PenguinZoo/>
4. **British Antarctic Survey:** “Imagining Antarctica” is an awesome platform for feeling what it’s like to be in Antarctica. Visit the site using the link below and watch some of the short videos. What do you think about the way penguins live?  
<https://discoveringantarctica.org.uk/introducing-antarctica/imagining-antarctica/>
5. **Penguins in person:** Would you like to see a live penguin? Can you plan a visit to your zoo to see penguins?

## **Read *Every Penguin in the World***

### **Introduction**

1. **Everyone loves penguins:** Do you think penguins are the most popular bird in the world? Do you love penguins? Why do people love them so much?
2. **Talking to a penguin:** The author tells a story of talking to a penguin. Do you think you can talk to an animal and understand each other? Please explain why or why not.
3. **Your story:** Do you have a story of talking to an animal? It could be a wild animal. It could be a pet, like your dog or cat or parrot. Please tell the story.

### **Part I: Adventure**

1. **Adventure stories:** What do you think makes an adventure? Have you had a big adventure? Can you tell the story?
2. **Other adventures in the book:** In addition to the author’s story about nearly drowning in the river, what is another adventure story that you enjoyed reading in *Every Penguin*?
3. **Wild animals:** Which wild animal would you really love to see? Where in the world does it live? Can you find it on a map? How is the animal species doing – is it endangered or not?

### **Part II: Science and Extreme Conservation**

1. **Penguin facts:** Please use the internet and online resources to answer these questions.
  - a. How many species of penguins are there now?
  - b. Do you think there will be more species one day?
  - c. How many species are endangered now?
  - d. Can penguins fly?
  - e. Do penguins mate for life? How do partners find each other in the huge penguin colonies? How do parents and chicks find each other?

- f. How long ago in evolutionary terms did penguins develop their flippers and become creatures of the sea, not the air?
  - g. Can penguins and polar bears ever see each other in the wild?
  - h. How many penguins are there in the largest colony of penguins?
  - i. Can penguins drink salt water?
  - j. How fast can a penguin swim? Hint: Gentoo penguins are the fastest.
2. **Favorite species of penguin:** What is your favorite penguin species? How is this species doing? Is it endangered? Is it stable?
  3. **Helping penguins:** What are two or three things you can do to help penguins, so they do not go extinct? Hint: see this [Make a Difference](#) card.

### **Part III: Pilgrimage**

1. **Emperor penguin colony:** In this book, the author shares some amazing facts about emperor penguins. Did any amaze you? Which ones? Look up emperor penguins and give one or two more amazing facts.
2. **Animal feelings A:** The author tells the story of a pair of penguins that walk down the beach “holding hands.” There is a photo of this on page 111. There are other photos of courting king penguins on pages xii, xv, 103, 104, and of emperor penguins on page 76. After looking at these photos, do you think the penguins are feeling something like what we call love? Do you think they have feelings? Why or why not?
3. **Animal feelings B:** Some people believe that animals do not have feelings. Some believe we cannot know if they do or not. Do you think it matters if animals have feelings? Why or why not?
4. **Wild penguins:** What species of penguin would you most like to see in the wild? Why? What would seeing this penguin species mean to you personally?

### **Photography**

1. **Photographs A:** Do you enjoy the photographs in this book? Which is your favorite? What did the author / photographer have to do to take the photo you like the most?
2. **Photographs B:** What are two or three other photographs you like? Why do you like them?
3. **Qualities of a good photo:** What do you think makes a good animal photograph?
4. **Your own photo:** Try to take a good animal photo. It could be of your pet or, if you want, of a wild animal, like a bird in your back yard. What are you trying to capture about the animal in your photograph?
5. **Your best shot:** Choose your favorite image of the animal you photographed. Why is it your favorite? Did you learn anything about the animal in taking the photo?