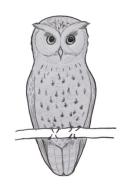






Z	F	Ε	Α	Т	Н	E	R	S	Χ
Α	L	Α	С	0	D	E	F	0	K
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S	L	Υ	N	W	С	R	R	Q	Т
Т	Α	В	Р	G	V	M	Р	U	I
S	С	M	С	0	S	Υ	Χ	M	0
Е	V	U	L	Т	U	R	E	S	N
G	G	Н	Т	S	0	N	G	S	Α
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Learn about birds and find the **BOLDED** words in the word search above.

Worldwide, there are more than 10,000 species of birds. They are found on every continent in the world and in almost every <u>HABITAT</u> type from deserts to <u>RAINFORESTS</u>, from tundra to mangroves and everything in between. While birds come in all shapes and sizes, they do share some important characteristics. All birds in the world are covered with **FEATHERS** and all birds have **WINGS**.

Despite having wings, not all birds can fly (for example penguins and kiwis). The shape of a bird's wings helps determine what kind of <u>FLIGHT</u> pattern it might use. For example, <u>FALCONS</u> have pointed wings and they are swift fliers. Some, like the American Kestrel, can even <u>HOVER</u> – flapping its wings quickly to remain airborne in one spot. Other birds, like <u>VULTURES</u>, have wide wings which they use for <u>SOARING</u>.

Bird <u>SONGS</u> and calls are very important. Birds use them to communicate with other members of their species, to find a mate, to warn of danger and to defend a territory. Bird calls vary widely among species – some are melodic, others consist of just one or two notes, and others, such as the call of the Keel-billed <u>TOUCAN</u>, sound just like a frog.

All birds lay <u>EGGS</u>. Some <u>NEST</u> in stick structures they build, whether in a tree, on the ground, on a cliff ledge, or even on a man-made structure like a telephone pole. Other birds, like many <u>OWL</u> species, don't build nests, but will use old nests abandoned by other birds, or will lay eggs in holes or cavities inside a tree.

While some birds remain in the same place all their lives, others, particularly during colder months, will travel hundreds or thousands of miles to warmer areas where food is more readily available. This is called **MIGRATION**.