

Read the article “Becoming a Duck” before answering Numbers 11 through 20.

Becoming a Duck

How do ducklings learn to be ducks? Ducklings know a lot by instinct. They know things without being taught. But they still need their moms!

Hatching

A mother duck lays from eight to twelve eggs. She sits on her nest. She keeps her eggs warm and safe. After 28 days, the ducklings hatch.

Ducklings chip away their shells from the inside. The shell finally breaks open. This is a lot of work! The ducklings get very tired. Their mother stays nearby while they rest. She keeps them safe.

Walking

The ducklings rest for about two hours. Then they stand up and walk! A duckling does not need help to take its first steps. When the ducklings are a day or two old, their mother takes them to water. The ducklings walk in line behind her.

Swimming

The mother duck goes into the water. The ducklings follow. Sometimes a duckling is not quite sure about going in. The mother quacks loudly. Then the duckling comes! Ducklings know just what to do in the water. Their webbed feet are perfect for paddling. They can swim without help.

GO ON →

17 What is the main topic of the fifth paragraph on page 102?

- (A) The mother duck goes into the water.
- (B) Ducklings know how to swim without help.
- (C) Ducklings need a lot of help to learn to swim.
- (D) Ducklings are not always sure about going into the water.

18 If *loud* means “having a big sound,” *loudly* means

- (F) not a big sound.
- (G) without a sound.
- (H) made with a big sound.
- (I) someone who makes a big sound.

19 Read this sentence from the article.

Their tails stick straight up in the air.

Which meaning of *stick* is the SAME one used in the sentence above?

- (A) stab
- (B) point in a certain way
- (C) a pole used to hit a ball
- (D) a twig or piece of wood

20 When do ducklings fly for the first time?

- (F) after they eat
- (G) when they are two months old
- (H) after their mother teaches them
- (I) when they need to find a new pond



- 14 Why does a mother duck NOT feed her ducklings?
- F She is not a good mother.
 - G She teaches them to fly instead.
 - H Ducklings know how to feed themselves.
 - I She dips her head into the water to find food.

- 15 To help understand how ducklings eat, it would be MOST helpful to see a photo of a duckling
- A pecking at seeds on the ground.
 - B following its mother into the water.
 - C with its head underwater and tail straight up.
 - D walking in a line of ducklings behind the mom.

- 16 Read this sentence from the article.

A duckling does not need help to take its first steps.

Which meaning of *steps* is the SAME one used in the sentence above?

- F stairs
- G parts of a dance
- H things you do to reach a goal
- I movement of lifting and placing the feet

Eating

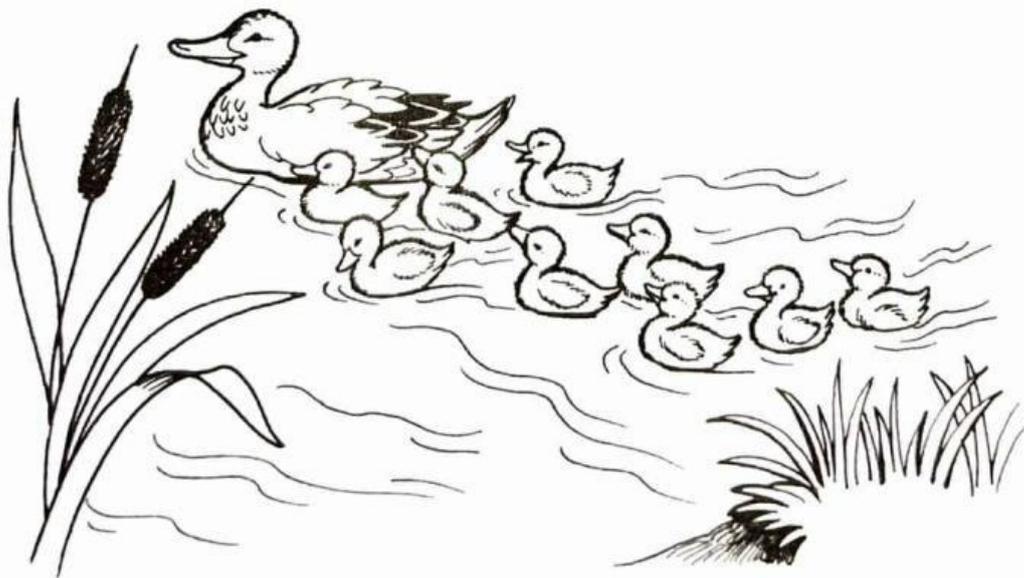
A mother does not feed her ducklings. Instead, she leads them to food. Ducklings know how to feed themselves. Ducks dip their heads into the water to reach food. Their tails stick straight up in the air.

Flying

Ducklings are nearly full-grown after two months. They look a lot like their moms. They stand tall and flap their wings. It is time to fly! Flying takes some practice. But ducklings know what to do. Soon they are able to fly through the sky.

Conclusion

Ducklings need their moms and their instincts. Their moms keep them safe. Moms show them where to find food. But ducklings know how to do many things. They break out of their shells by themselves. They walk, swim, and fly without any lessons. With their moms and instincts, ducklings become ducks!



Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Now answer Numbers 11 through 20. Base your answers on “Becoming a Duck.”

11 What is the main topic of “Becoming a Duck”?

- Ⓐ how webbed feet are perfect for paddling
- Ⓑ how the mother duck gets food
- Ⓒ how ducklings look
- Ⓓ how ducklings grow up

12 Read this sentence from the article.

Ducklings chip away their shells from the inside.

Which sentence uses *chip* in the SAME way it is used in the sentence above?

- Ⓕ Sam and Chip are best friends.
- Ⓖ Tessa has a chip in her front tooth.
- Ⓗ Ann likes to eat one corn chip at a time.
- Ⓘ Henry’s mom will chip the ice into little pieces.

13 Read these sentences from the article.

The ducklings rest for about two hours. Then they stand up and walk!

Which sentence uses *stand* in the SAME way it is used in the sentence above?

- Ⓐ Ty cannot stand carrots.
- Ⓑ The children stand up to sing.
- Ⓒ Lucy put her clay bird on a stand.
- Ⓓ Please put the umbrella in the stand.

GO ON →