

Name:

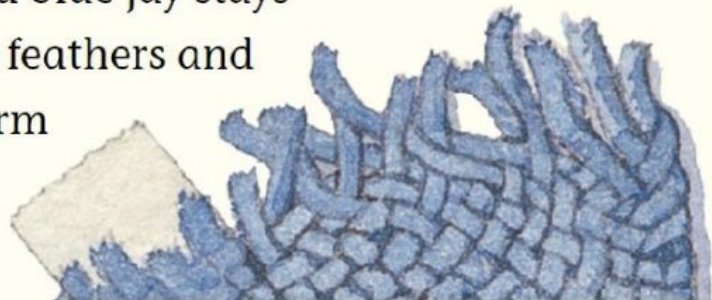
Class:

Feathers Not Just for Flying

- 1 Birds and feathers go together, like trees and leaves, like stars and the sky. All birds have feathers, but no other animals do.
- 2 Most birds have thousands of feathers, but those feathers aren't all the same. That's because feathers have so many different jobs to do.

Feathers can warm like a blanket ...

- 3 On cold, damp days a blue jay stays warm by fluffing up its feathers and trapping a layer of warm air next to its skin.



or cushion like a pillow.

- 4 A female wood duck lines her nest with feathers she plucks from her own body. These feathers cushion the duck's eggs and keep them warm.

Feathers can shade out sun like an umbrella ...

- 5 As a hungry tricolored heron wades through the water in search of food, it raises its wings high over its head. The feathers block out reflections from the sky and shade the water. This makes it easier to spot tasty fish and frogs.


or protect skin like sunscreen.

- 6 On sunny summer afternoons red-tailed hawks spend hours soaring through the sky in search of prey. Their thick feathers protect their delicate skin from the sun's harmful rays.

Feathers can soak up water like a sponge ...

- 7 On sizzling summer days a male sandgrouse cools off by soaking his belly feathers in a watering hole. Then the proud papa flies to his nest. While dad guards his chicks, the little ones suck on his feathers to quench their thirst.


or clean up messes like a scrub brush.

- 8 An American bittern always cleans up after it eats. Its feathers have brittle tips that crumble into a dusty powder. The powder is perfect for scouring away the dirt and slimy fish oil that sticks to its feathers.
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Feathers can distract attackers like a bullfighter's cape ...

- 9 A dark-eyed junco distracts its enemies by flashing the bright white feathers on the outside of its tail. Then it quickly covers the feathers and darts off in the other direction.

or hide a bird from predators like camouflage clothing.

- 10 A female cardinal's dull, grayish-tan body and feathers blend in with her forest home. They help her hide and protect her nest from enemies while she sits on her eggs.
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Questions:

1. What is the author's purpose of writing this text?
 - A.To inform readers about how to use feather for cleaning
 - B. To inform reader about the different purposes birds use feathers for
 - C. To inform readers how to use a feather to protect yourself

2. The main idea of the text is:
 - A.Feathers are Only for Flying
 - B. The importance of feathers for birds
 - C. How to cut a bird's feather

3. A female wood duck uses its feather as a:
 - A.A blanket
 - B. A cushion
 - C. A sponge

4. What does a tricolor heron use its feather for?
 - A. To protect itself from the harmful rays of the sun
 - B. To make it easy to find food
 - C. To sleep on it
5. Which bird uses its feather for cleaning?
 - A. An American bittern
 - B. A male sandgrouse
 - C. Red-tailed hawks
6. What is NOT a usage of feathers?
 - A. To call for help
 - B. To distract enemies
 - C. To protect skin like a sunscreen
7. Birds use their feather as a kind of defense in different ways, like:
 - A. Flashing the bright feathers of the tail
 - B. Using its color to help it hide
 - C. Both are correct

8. "Feathers can distract attackers." Choose a synonym for "attackers":

A. helper

B. prey

C. invader

9. "Feathers sometimes protect birds from enemies."

Choose an antonym for "enemies":

A. Predators

B. Friends

C. Parents

10. "An American bittern always cleans up using feather."

What is the adverb in this sentence?
