



Name _____

Date _____

IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER

For many years, people thought the ivory-billed woodpecker was gone. In 2005, a man saw one.

Ivory-billed woodpeckers are almost two feet long. They have a white bill. Males also have red feathers on the top of their heads. They have large, curved claws.

The ivory-billed woodpecker uses its bill to find food. It peels the bark off trees to uncover bugs. Its bill makes a knocking sound against the wood.

Long ago, people hunted these birds. They also cut down trees. These trees were home to the ivory-billed woodpecker. Soon, these birds disappeared.

Recently, scientists have found at least one male bird in an Arkansas swamp. Welcome back, ivory-billed woodpecker!



STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is **true** about ivory-billed woodpeckers?
 - a. They are tiny birds.
 - b. They are all gone.
 - c. They eat watermelon.
 - d. One was discovered in a swamp.
2. In this story, the word *bill* means . . .
 - a. a dollar.
 - b. a law.
 - c. a beak.
 - d. a notice sent in the mail.
3. How do ivory-billed woodpeckers use their bills?
 - a. They use it to uncover bugs.
 - b. They use it to dig holes in the sand.
 - c. They use it to pop balloons.
 - d. They use it to talk to bugs.
4. Why did these birds disappear?
 - a. They moved to Italy.
 - b. They all got sick.
 - c. They lost their homes.
 - d. They got lost in swamps.



Name _____

Date _____

PEREGRINE FALCON

The peregrine falcon is the fastest animal on the earth. These lovely birds are fierce hunters.

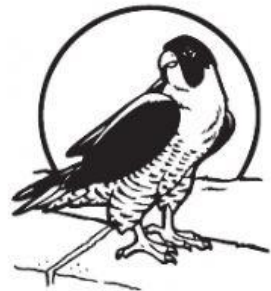
The peregrine falcon has blue-gray wings. They have white faces with a black stripe on each cheek. Their wingspan is about three feet.

This falcon eats other birds. It likes pigeons, starlings, parrots, and ducks. It flies high in the sky. When it sees a bird, it goes into a dive. This is called a stoop.

Peregrine falcons can dive at over 200 miles per hour! They ball up their feet. Then, they knock prey out in midair.

Most young peregrine falcons die in their first year. Animals steal baby chicks and eggs. Pesticides also hurt these falcons.

People are helping to save peregrine falcons. Now, there are many pairs of these birds. Some of them live in cities. They make nests on high bridges and skyscrapers. Have you seen one?



STORY QUESTIONS

- The peregrine falcon is famous for its . . .
 - stripes.
 - speed.
 - smile.
 - nest.
- In this story, the word *stoop* means . . .
 - something to sit on.
 - duck.
 - dive.
 - bend down to pick up something.
- Why do peregrine falcons die in their first year?
 - Animals steal baby chicks from their parents.
 - They fly into rocks.
 - Parrots eat them.
 - They live on bridges.
- You may spot the nest of a peregrine falcon on a . . .
 - bus.
 - boat.
 - apple tree.
 - high bridge.