



Name _____

Date _____

PEREGRINE FALCON

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

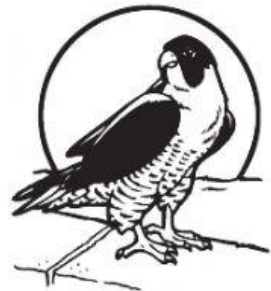
The peregrine falcon has blue-gray wings. They have white faces with a black stripe on each cheek. Their wingspan is about three feet.

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

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



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ANTEATER

What animal likes to eat ants? An anteater, of course!

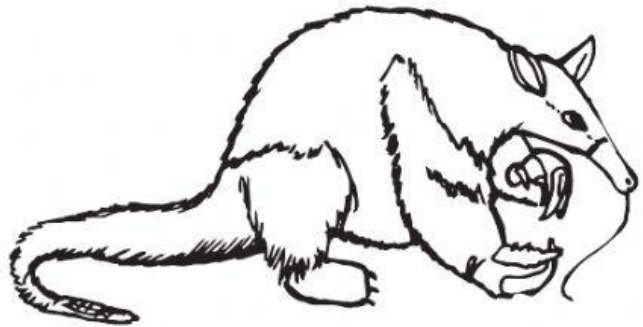
Anteaters like swamps and forests. They live in South America. They like hot weather.

Anteaters have sharp claws. They can climb trees. Their claws are also weapons in case of an attack.

They also have long, sticky tongues.

Anteaters use their tongues to pick up food. First, they open an ant nest. Then, they scoop up ants with their tongue.

Big anteaters are four feet long. Small anteaters are the size of a rat. Big or small, they all love to eat ants.



STORY QUESTIONS

1. How do you think anteaters got their name?
 - a. They love to eat ants.
 - b. They like to play with ants.
 - c. Ants love to eat them.
 - d. Ants like to climb trees.
2. What is a fact about anteaters?
 - a. They don't have claws.
 - b. They like hot weather.
 - c. They live in North America.
 - d. They scoop up ants with their tails.
3. Anteaters climb trees using their . . .
 - a. tails.
 - b. tongues.
 - c. ants.
 - d. claws.
4. The smallest anteater is the size of a . . .
 - a. rat.
 - b. man.
 - c. whale.
 - d. cow.