

Read and fill in the blanks with the correct word from the box below.

adaptations — evolved — soar — glide — hollow —  
flapping — wingspan

Different species of birds have (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for millions of years developing different body parts to adapt to their lifestyles. These (2) \_\_\_\_\_ help birds live in their habitats and carry out their feeding methods in the most efficient way possible. Bird wings are largely adapted to fit a bird's hunting style. Wings with a long (3) \_\_\_\_\_ which end in a point that work well for birds that (4) \_\_\_\_\_ such as gulls. Some birds such as vultures have finger-like feathers at the end of their wings, which help the bird make small changes while gliding. Birds with this wing shape can stay high in the air for a long time and (5) \_\_\_\_\_ with little or no (6) \_\_\_\_\_ while they look for food.

Despite the many differences between species, all birds share several characteristics. All birds are warm-blooded and lay hard-shelled eggs. Many of the bones in a bird's body are (7) \_\_\_\_\_, making the bird lightweight and better adapted to flying.