



Worksheet 19. Reading: Emperor Penguins

Read the passage about penguins. Then answer the questions on the next page.

Emperor Penguins



Emperor penguins live in groups in Antarctica. In March, they travel together from the sea across the icy land to a breeding ground. Here they choose their mates. Then the female lays an egg, and she gives the egg to her mate.

Now the female has another job to do. She must go back to the sea to find food and eat as much as possible. She makes this journey together with all the other females in the group.

While she is gone, the **male's** job is to take care of the egg. He holds it on **his** feet in a pouch at the bottom of **his** body. In about 72 days, the egg hatches. The male feeds it with a special kind of "milk" that **his** body makes.

When the female returns, she finds her mate and **their** new baby penguin. For a short time, both parents take care of **their** baby.

Now it is the **male's** turn to look for food in the ocean and the **mother's** turn to take care of **their** baby. In other words, the mother and the father exchange **their** jobs: now **hers** is to take care of the baby, and **his** is to find food.

The males return in a few weeks and join **their** families again. In December, the whole group of penguins travel back to the ocean together. Only three months later, they will all return to the breeding ground and repeat the cycle of penguin life.

breeding ground = a place where animals go to choose their mates and to reproduce.



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Circle True if the sentence is true, and False if the sentence is false, according to the passage about the Emperor penguins.

1. Emperor penguins live and travel in groups. True / False
2. After they chose their mates, they travel to a breeding ground. True / False
3. The female penguin lays an egg. True / False
4. She takes care of it for ten weeks. True / False
5. The male penguin covers the egg with his pouch. True / False
6. The male penguin feeds the newborn baby. True / False
7. After the females return from the sea, the males go to the sea. True / False
8. The penguins stay in the breeding ground for the whole year. True / False