

Nurturing intelligence

A new path towards General Knowledge



REEM

REEM Wisdom Pages LLP, New Delhi

1

How Well Do You Know Birds?

Let's find out how much you know about birds. Here are some common questions about birds. Can you answer them? Unscramble the following phrases to get the processes described.

1. The process by which animals replace their skin (**mount gil**)
2. The long sleep that animals go through in the winter months (**neha in orbit**)
3. The annual movement of birds and animals to warmer climates (**it roaming**)
4. The ability to change colours of the skin to blend into the background (**unmagical fog**)
5. The method by which birds use their beaks to clean and smooth their feathers (**green pin**)

Let's answer questions related to an egg.

1. A bird's egg has two parts, _____ and _____
2. The process by which baby birds come out of the eggs is called _____
3. The soft feathers of a baby bird are called _____
4. The baby bird breaks the shell of the egg using the sharp part of its beak called the _____
5. The study of birds' eggs is called _____
6. Egg laying animals are known as _____



Help!

albumin tooth oviparous yolk
down hatching oology

Do You Know ?

There is a bird whose beak can hold more food than its stomach. It has a beak which is nearly half the length of its body. This extraordinary bird is the pelican. It is a large water bird with a large throat pouch. The pelicans spend a lot of time catching fish and whenever it has caught more fish than it can hold it in its beak, it transfers them to the pouch attached to the beak!

Forests Of The World

Forests represent a third of the Earth's land, and are found in all the four corners of the globe. However, there is much more to forests than trees.



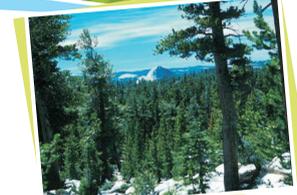
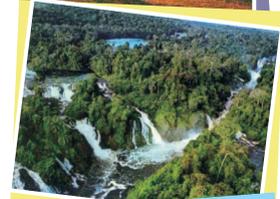
A crossword puzzle grid on a light blue background. The grid consists of pink squares. The starting positions for the clues are numbered 1 through 9. A world map is shown in the upper right, with green areas indicating forest distribution. Below the map are two photographs: one of a mountain range with evergreen forests and another of a forest with autumn foliage.

Read the explanations given below and fill in the name of the forests in the grid.

- a. Also known as boreal forests, these forests form the largest land forests in the world. They are found in cold areas and have thick evergreen forests. The trees form a canopy and floor vegetation is thin. They can be found in the broad belt of Eurasia and North America: (two-thirds in Siberia with the rest in Scandinavia, Alaska, and Canada). (7 Down)



- b. Closely, related to boreal forests, they have short and mild winter seasons. Their soil is richer than that of the boreal forests and features a larger assortment of forest floor plant life. (3 Down)
- c. These forests occur near the equator. They are characterized by high rainfall and are also responsible for 28% of the world's oxygen turnover. They are the most ecologically rich in the world's biomes, occupying only 7% of earth's land areas. (6 Across)
- d. Found in tropical and subtropical tidal areas, these trees and vegetation are tolerant of salt and are known as Halophytes, meaning tolerant of salt. They feature only a small number of tree species. They have massive root systems which offer a quiet marine region for young organisms. (1 Across)
- e. They are found all along the Himalayas and on the higher hills near the Myanmar border in the areas of high snowfall. They have low scrub, dense evergreen forest, consisting mainly of rhododendron and birch. (8 Across)
- f. These are also known as cloud forests because they receive most of their precipitation from the mist or fog that comes up from the lowlands. They are found in the American, African and Asian continents. (2 Down)
- g. These forests are found to the south of the temperate regions around the coasts of the Mediterranean, California, Chile and Western Australia. The growing season is short and almost all trees are evergreen-both hardwood and softwood. (1 Down)
- h. These forests inhabit the cold, windy regions around the poles. Both hardwoods and conifers are found in this region. The conifers are evergreen and structurally adapted to withstand the long drought-like conditions of the long winters, whereas the hardwoods are deciduous. (5 Down)
- i. These swamp forests are found in large areas of southeast Asia (especially Borneo and Sumatra). They grow in places where dead vegetation causes water logging and accumulates as peat. These forests are especially infamous for forest fires as fires in these swamps are extraordinarily difficult to extinguish. (4 across)
- j. These are a type of rainforests but are distinctively known for stilt roots and flying buttresses to lend structural support. These forests are flooded (4-10 months of the year) and have wet, poorly drained soils leading to only a few species of palms. Fishes play an important role in seed dispersal in this forest system. (9 across)



Do You Know ?

World Forestry Day is celebrated around the world on 21st March, the day of the autumn equinox in the Southern Hemisphere. This day commemorates the contribution and value of forests and forestry to the community.