

Eagle Quest

Name _____

SITE: American Eagle Foundation

1. How many species of eagles are found on Earth? _____
2. Identify each using the letters below using BD for the Bald Eagle, G for the Golden Eagle, H for the Harpy Eagle, and BT for the Bateleur Eagle.

- ___ Serpent or snake eagle
- ___ Fish or sea eagle
- ___ Giant forest eagle
- ___ Booted eagle
- ___ Found in rain forests of Central & South America
- ___ Found in Africa
- ___ Thought to be the largest eagle in the world
- ___ Builds nests on rocks and ledges
- ___ Name means "acrobat" in French
- ___ Nests in tall trees near water
- ___ Lives only in North America
- ___ Ranges throughout Western Hemisphere

Click "More About Bald Eagles" to find the answer to these questions.

3. When did the bald eagle become the National Emblem of the United States? _____
4. What did Ben Franklin want to name as the national bird? _____
5. When do bald eagles get their distinctive white head and tail feathers? _____
6. Which state does not have bald eagles? _____
7. What types of animals do bald eagles eat? _____
8. How fast do bald eagles fly? _____ How fast can they dive? _____
9. What term is used for a bald eagle nest? _____
10. What percentage of eaglets survive their first year? _____%

11. What caused the decline of the eagle population?

1 -

2 -

3 -

4 -

12. Which pesticide is outlawed in the US because of its effect on eagles? _____
What problems did it cause?

Site: Sea World - Bald Eagles

NOTE: You will also need to visit the Fact Sheet → look at the bottom of the page for the link.

1. What is the life span of a bald eagle? _____

2. What is carrion? _____

3. How did the bald eagle get its name?

4. What happens to bones, feathers, and hair that cannot be digested?

5. What does the term “fledge” mean?

Site: Enchanted Learning - Bald Eagles

1. How big is an adult bald eagle?

Wingspan = _____ Height = _____ Weight = _____

2. Which is larger: female or male bald eagle? _____ How much larger? ____ %

3. What term is used to describe the knife-like claws on an eagle's feet? _____

4. How many feathers do eagles have? _____

5. TRUE or FALSE → Eagles are carnivores.

6. What does the term "diurnal" mean? _____
7. Complete this statement: Eagles can spot a rabbit from as far as a _____ away.
8. TRUE or FALSE → Eagles cannot see color.
9. In what type of environment do bald eagles live?

10. How long is the incubation period for a bald eagle egg? ____ to ____ months
11. How are bald eagles classified?
- Kingdom - _____ (the _____)
 - Phylum - _____
 - Subphylum - _____ (animals with _____)
 - Class - _____ (_____)
 - Order - _____
 - Family - _____
 - Genus - _____ (_____ eagles)
 - Species - _____ (meaning " _____ " in Greek)

Eagle Quest

ANSWER KEY

SITE: American Eagle Foundation

1. How many species of eagles are found on Earth? **59**
2. Identify each using the letters below using BD for the Bald Eagle, G for the Golden Eagle, H for the Harpy Eagle, and BT for the Bateleur Eagle.

BT Serpent or snake eagle

BD Fish or sea eagle

H Giant forest eagle

G Booted eagle

H Found in rain forests of Central & South America

BT Found in Africa

H Thought to be the largest eagle in the world

G Builds nests on rocks and ledges

BT Name means “acrobat” in French

BD Nests in tall trees near water

BD Lives only in North America

G Ranges throughout Western Hemisphere

Click “More About Bald Eagles” to find the answer to these questions.

3. When did the bald eagle become the National Emblem of the United States? **1782**
4. What did Ben Franklin want to name as the national bird? **Wild Turkey**
5. When do bald eagles get their distinctive white head and tail feathers?
4 to 5 years of age
6. Which state does not have bald eagles? **Hawaii**
7. What types of animals do bald eagles eat? **Fish, ducks, muskrats, turtles, rabbits, snakes, and carrion**
8. How fast do bald eagles fly? **65 mph** How fast can they dive? **150 or 200 mph**
9. What term is used for a bald eagle nest? **Eyries**
10. What percentage of eaglets survive their first year? **50%**

11. What caused the decline of the eagle population?

- 1 - **Mass shooting**
- 2 - **Use of pesticides on crops**
- 3 - **Destruction of habitat**
- 4 - **Contamination of waterways and food sources**

12. Which pesticide is outlawed in the US because of its effect on eagles? **DDT** What problems did it cause? **Caused the thinning of eggs shells causing them to break during incubation**

Site: Sea World - Bald Eagles

NOTE: You will also need to visit the Fact Sheet → look at the bottom of the page for the link.

1. What is the life span of a bald eagle? **Up to 30 years in the wild, longer in captivity**
2. What is carrion? **Dead animal matter**
3. How did the bald eagle get its name? **It's name comes from the Old English word "balde" meaning white.**
4. What happens to bones, feathers, and hair that cannot be digested? **They are regurgitated.**
5. What does the term "fledge" mean? **Learning to fly from the nest**

Site: Enchanted Learning - Bald Eagles

1. How big is an adult bald eagle?

Wingspan = **7 ft (2.3 m)** Height = **3 ft (1 m)** Weight = **9-14 lbs**

2. Which is larger: female or male bald eagle? **Female** How much larger? **30 %**
3. What term is used to describe the knife-like claws on an eagle's feet? **Talons**
4. How many feathers do eagles have? **7,000**
5. TRUE or FALSE → Eagles are carnivores. **TRUE**
6. What does the term "diurnal" mean? **Animals that hunt during the day.**

7. Complete this statement: Eagles can spot a rabbit from as far as a **mile** away.
8. TRUE or FALSE → Eagles cannot see color. **FALSE**
9. In what type of environment do bald eagles live? **Forests near shores of lakes and rivers**
10. How long is the incubation period for a bald eagle egg? **1 to 1 1/2 months**
11. How are bald eagles classified?
 - Kingdom - **Animalia** (the **animals**)
 - Phylum - **Chordata**
 - Subphylum - **Vertebra** (animals with **backbones**)
 - Class - **Aves** (**Birds**)
 - Order - **Falconiformes**
 - Family - **Accipitridae**
 - Genus - **Haliaeetus** (**sea eagles**)
 - Species - **leucocephalus** (meaning "**white head**" in Greek)