

Flamingos — Pink Birds

That Stand on One Leg

Reading Worksheet — Level C | tahricteaches.com

A flamingo is a **tall**, pink **bird** with a long neck and two thin legs. Flamingos live near a **lake** or the sea, where the water is shallow. They like to stand in the soft **mud** at the edge of the water.

Most people know a flamingo by its bright **color**. But flamingos are not born pink! A baby flamingo is gray or white. It slowly turns **pink** as it grows and eats its food. The pink color comes from tiny shrimp and plants in the water.

A flamingo likes to **stand** on just one **leg**. It tucks its other leg up under its body. Scientists think this helps the flamingo rest and stay warm. A flamingo can stand this way for a long time, even while it sleeps!

A flamingo uses its long **neck** to bend down and put its head in the water, upside down! It moves its beak from side to side in the mud to find small shrimp and bugs to eat. Its beak works like a tiny net.

Flamingos do not live alone. They live in a big **group** called a flock. Some flocks have thousands of flamingos together! Living in a group helps keep each flamingo safe from danger. A flock of pink flamingos is a beautiful sight to see.

A. Vocabulary

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1. bird ____ | a. to be on your feet without moving |
| 2. pink ____ | b. a large area of water surrounded by land |
| 3. color ____ | c. a light red color |
| 4. leg ____ | d. wet, soft earth |
| 5. stand ____ | e. a number of people or things together |
| 6. neck ____ | f. the part of the body that connects the head to the shoulders |
| 7. tall ____ | g. having a greater than average height |
| 8. lake ____ | h. an animal that has wings and feathers and can usually fly |
| 9. mud ____ | i. the way something looks because of the light it reflects, like red, blue, or p |
| 10. group ____ | j. one of the parts of the body used for standing and walking |



B. True or False

1. A flamingo is a kind of bird. ____
2. Flamingos live only in deep water far from land. ____
3. A baby flamingo is born bright pink. ____
4. A flamingo's pink color comes from the food it eats. ____
5. A flamingo often stands on just one leg. ____
6. A flamingo cannot stand on one leg for very long. ____
7. A flamingo puts its head in the water to find food. ____
8. Flamingos always live alone, never in groups. ____
9. A group of flamingos is called a flock. ____



C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: bird, pink, stand, neck, group

1. A flamingo is a kind of _____.
2. A baby flamingo is gray, but it slowly turns _____.
3. A flamingo likes to _____ on just one leg.
4. A flamingo uses its long _____ to reach into the water.
5. Flamingos live together in a big _____ called a flock.

D. Comprehension Questions

1. Where do flamingos like to live?
2. What color is a baby flamingo when it is born?
3. Why do scientists think a flamingo stands on one leg?
4. How does a flamingo find food in the water?

5. What is a group of flamingos called?

E. Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever seen a flamingo at a zoo or in a picture? What did you notice about it?
2. Why do you think it is helpful for flamingos to live together in a big group?
3. If you could ask a flamingo one question, what would you ask?



Answer Key

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A. Vocabulary: 1-h, 2-c, 3-i, 4-j, 5-a, 6-f, 7-g, 8-b, 9-d, 10-e

B. True/False: 1-T, 2-F, 3-F, 4-T, 5-T, 6-F, 7-T, 8-F, 9-T

C. Fill Blanks: 1-bird, 2-pink, 3-stand, 4-neck, 5-group

D. Comprehension:

1. Flamingos like to live near a lake or the sea, where the water is shallow.
2. A baby flamingo is gray or white when it is born.
3. Scientists think standing on one leg helps the flamingo rest and stay warm.
4. A flamingo puts its head upside down in the water and moves its beak through the mud to find small shrimp and bugs.
5. A group of flamingos is called a flock.

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