

Penguins of Antarctica

Sally Cowan



PM

Penguins of Antarctica

Sally Cowan



Contents

Antarctic Penguins	2
Living in the Cold	4
An Icy Home	8
Diving for Prey	10
Caring for Chicks	12
Penguins of the Antarctic Islands	18
The Future for Antarctic Penguins	20
Glossary	23
Index	24

Antarctic Penguins

Penguins are seabirds. Most penguins live in the **Southern Hemisphere**.

Emperor penguins and Adelie (say: A-dell-ee) penguins live in **Antarctica**. Some other kinds of penguins live on the islands nearby.

Although penguins are birds, they cannot fly. But they are excellent swimmers. Their **sleek** bodies, strong flippers and webbed feet allow them to glide through the water. They can also dive very deep in search of food.



Antarctica is the land around the South Pole.



emperor penguins



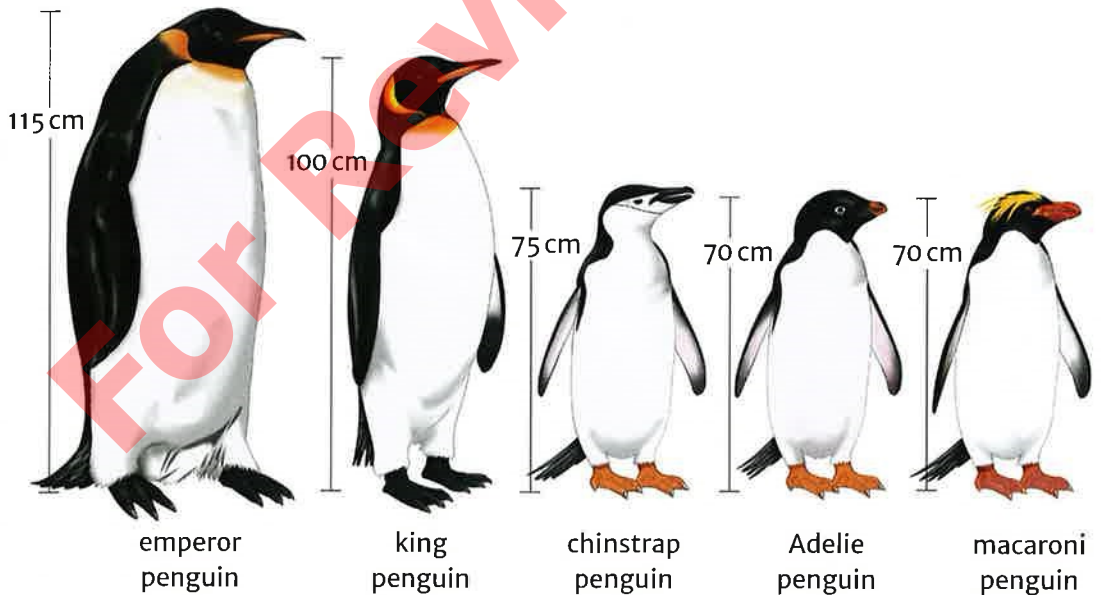
Adelie penguin

Living in the Cold

Penguins have a thick layer of **blubber** on their bodies. It keeps them warm on the ice and in the cold water.

Emperor penguins are the largest penguins, and have the most blubber. They grow more than a metre tall and can weigh up to 40 kilograms.

Penguins have black feathers on their backs and white feathers on their bellies. Some kinds of penguins also have coloured feathers around their heads. Penguins' feathers completely cover their skin, and protect them from cold water and wind.



This chart shows the heights of Antarctic penguins.



Emperor penguins are the largest and tallest penguins.

Macaroni penguins have brightly coloured feathers on their heads.



Penguins often have to walk on slippery ice. They walk upright on their short, stocky legs, following each other in a long line. They do not look very **agile** as they waddle and hop on the ice, but they can move quite fast. They also slide along the ice on their bellies.



Emperor penguins walk and slide along the ice.

Penguins use their strong claws to climb up steep ice cliffs and over rocks.



An Adelie penguin walks over rocks.