Flightless Birds

Diana Noonan



PM

For teachers' inspection ONLY

Flightless Birds

Level 18

Running Words 431 **Text Type** Information Report (Informative)

Curriculum Areas Science; Humanities – Geography

Retelling to encourage critical thinking about the content

Ask each student to retell the information report in his or her own words. Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to reinforce meaning and stimulate discussion

Literal

Why are some birds called 'flightless'?

Where do flightless birds find their food?

How do some big flightless birds escape from predators?

How does the kiwi find its food in the dark?

Inferential

Why do most birds that can fly make their nests in trees?

Why would it be difficult to see a kakapo?

Why do some penguins make their nests on the cold ground?

Why do lots of people care for flightless birds?

Links with other PM Guided Reading Books and Cards

Level 18	Card	Narrative	*Why Kiwi Can't Fly*
Level 18	Book	Information Report	*Crabs*
Level 17	Book	Recount	*Dad, the Bird Caller*
Level 18	Book	Poetry	*My Book of Poems*

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Contents

Birds That Do Not Fly 2
Big Flightless Birds 5
Small Flightless Birds 9
Looking After Flightless Birds 14
Where Flightless Birds Live 15
Glossary 16

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Birds That Do Not Fly

All birds have wings and feathers.
But some birds cannot fly.
They are called "flightless birds".

Birds that can fly have strong, light wings.

Many birds that cannot fly
have very small wings.

Flightless birds live all over the world.





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Finding Food

Lots of birds that can fly
find food to eat in the **treetops**.

But most flightless birds cannot do this.
They have to find their food on the ground.
Some hunt for food in the sea.

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Nests

Most birds that can fly make nests in trees.

Many flightless birds make their nests on or near the ground.



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Big Flightless Birds

Some flightless birds are very big.
They cannot fly away from **predators**.
Their wings are too small.

But they can run away,
because they have long, strong legs.
They can run very fast.



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The Ostrich

The ostrich is a big flightless bird from South Africa.
It has long legs and a very long neck.
It can see over the top of tall grass.

The ostrich watches for predators with its big eyes.





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The Emu

The emu is the biggest bird in Australia.
It cannot fly, because it has very small wings.

The emu is a fast runner.
It will chase any animal that comes near its eggs.