



Let's dive into the fascinating world of wood storks, a truly unique creature! These spectacular birds are big, standing up to 3.5 feet high with a wingspan of up to 5.5 feet. Their bodies are covered in white feathers, but their heads and necks are bald, covered in a scaly, dark gray skin. And if you get a chance to see them in flight, you'll notice their black flight feathers which is a pretty cool contrast to their white bodies.

Now that you've pictured these magnificent creatures, let's discover where they live and what they eat. Wood storks are found in the southeastern United States, but they really love the wetlands of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. They are expert fishermen who love to dine on small fish, and they have a unique fishing technique. They use their sensitive beaks to feel for fish in the murky water, and snap! They've got their dinner.



From their amazing fishing skills, let's move to their interesting life cycle and their relationship with other animals. Wood storks are quite social and like to live in large colonies with other birds. They build their nests in trees near water, often sharing their space with herons, egrets, and ibises. During breeding season, each pair of wood storks takes turns incubating their eggs, and then feeding and taking care of their chicks.

We've learned so much about wood storks, but let's not forget about their relationship with us humans and their unique defenses. While they might look a bit intimidating with their large size and bald heads, wood storks are generally peaceful creatures and pose no threat to humans. In fact, they are a protected species in many areas because their habitats are threatened by human activity. So next time when you see a wood stork, give it a friendly wave, and remember all the cool facts you've learned about them!



**Solve each problem.****Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) Are wood storks a protected species?
 - A. No, they are considered pests
 - B. No, they are not protected
 - C. Yes, in many areas
 - D. No, there are too many of them
- 2) During the breeding season, who incubates the eggs of the wood stork?
 - A. Only the mother stork
 - B. Neither, they leave them to hatch on their own
 - C. Only the father stork
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- 3) What do wood storks eat?
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 - B. Insects
 - C. Fish
 - D. Plants
- 4) What colors are the feathers on a wood stork's body?
 - A. Green and yellow
 - B. Red and blue
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- 5) Are wood storks dangerous to humans?
 - A. Yes, they carry dangerous diseases
 - B. No, they are peaceful creatures
 - C. Yes, they are very aggressive
 - D. Yes, they often attack humans
- 6) Where can you find wood storks?
 - A. Northwestern United States
 - B. Southwestern United States
 - C. Southeastern United States
 - D. Northeastern United States
- 7) With which other birds do wood storks share their space?
 - A. Herons, egrets, and ibises
 - B. Eagles, hawks, and owls
 - C. Parrots, toucans, and budgerigars
 - D. Doves, pigeons, and sparrows
- 8) What is the texture of the skin on a wood stork's head and neck?
 - A. Furry
 - B. Feathery
 - C. Smooth
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- 9) What is the color of the feathers on a wood stork's body?
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- 10) Where do wood storks like to live?
 - A. Forests
 - B. Deserts
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 - D. Mountains
- 11) What color are the flight feathers of a wood stork?
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Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 12) "I build my nest on the ground."
- 13) "Caring is in our nature. Once the eggs are laid, both parents share responsibility in taking care of the chicks."
- 14) "We are big birds, as tall as three and a half feet!"
- 15) "I might look a bit intimidating with my large size and bald head, but I'm pretty chill, not aggressive at all."
- 16) "During the breeding season, you will see me sharing responsibilities with my partner, we even take turns incubating our eggs."
- 17) "I have a glamorous head full of feathers."
- 18) "I let my partner do all the work in taking care of our chicks."
- 19) "We share space with herons, egrets, and ibises in colonies."
- 20) "I just swoop down and grab fish out of the water."
- 21) "I'm the second smallest bird in North America."
- 22) "I am pretty social and enjoy living in a large neighborhood of fellow birds."
- 23) "Egrets, herons and ibises are my enemies."
- 24) "My home's a bit swampy—I love living in the wetlands of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina."
- 25) "Our black feathers make quite a sight against our white bodies, especially when we're soaring high up in the sky."
- 26) "I prefer to live alone, not in large colonies."
- 27) "Our keen beaks help us feel the fish before getting it in our beak quickly."
- 28) "We have no feathers on our heads or necks, it's just smooth, scaly, grey skin."
- 29) "I'm very aggressive towards humans."
- 30) "I hate eating fish."

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 31) Wood storks often share their living space with herons, egrets, and ibises.
- 32) Wood storks' black flight feathers make them look extra stylish.
- 33) Wood storks are usually found in the southeastern United States.
- 34) Wood storks, with their bald heads, are the oddest-looking birds in the wetlands.
- 35) Wood storks can stand almost 4 feet high.
- 36) Wood storks are not scary animals, despite their large size and bald heads.
- 37) Wood storks are a protected species because their habitats are threatened by human activity.
- 38) A wood stork's head and neck are not covered in feathers, but in a scaly, dark gray skin.
- 39) It's not fair that wood storks have to share their nests with other birds.
- 40) It's amazing how wood storks take turns incubating their eggs and feeding their chicks.

**Determine if the statement is true or false.**

- 41) Wood storks share their space with other birds.
- 42) Wood storks are one of the smallest birds in the world.
- 43) Wood storks live in trees near water.
- 44) Wood storks heads and necks are covered in gray or brown fur.
- 45) Wood storks are carnivores who love to eat small fish.
- 46) Wood storks prefer to live alone.
- 47) Wood storks are aggressive and attack without warning.
- 48) Only the female wood stork takes care of her chicks.
- 49) Wood storks are a protected species in many areas.
- 50) Wood storks are found in the southeastern United States.

Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

- 51) They'll eat fish and other small creatures.
A. They are
B. They will
C. They have
D. They do
- 52) I'd say their nest are quite large.
A. I would
B. I have
C. I do
D. I am
- 53) Wood storks aren't found everywhere in the world.
A. is not
B. have not
C. do not
D. are not
- 54) It's a bird that's well known for its bald, dark head.
A. It is
B. It has
C. It does
D. It will
- 55) They've a wingspan of up to 5 feet.
A. They will
B. They are
C. They have
D. They do

Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 56) Wood storks primarily eat small fish and amphibians.
- 57) How many eggs does a wood stork lay?
- 58) Wood storks have a bald head and a long, thick bill.
- 59) Wood storks have a wingspan of about 6 feet.
- 60) Why is the wood stork's beak so long?
- 61) What does a wood stork eat?



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| 1. _____ | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
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| 3. _____ | 28. _____ | 53. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 29. _____ | 54. _____ |
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| 15. _____ | 40. _____ | |
| 16. _____ | 41. _____ | |
| 17. _____ | 42. _____ | |
| 18. _____ | 43. _____ | |
| 19. _____ | 44. _____ | |
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|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u> C </u> | 26. <u> false </u> | 51. <u> B </u> |
| 2. <u> D </u> | 27. <u> true </u> | 52. <u> A </u> |
| 3. <u> C </u> | 28. <u> true </u> | 53. <u> D </u> |
| 4. <u> D </u> | 29. <u> false </u> | 54. <u> A </u> |
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