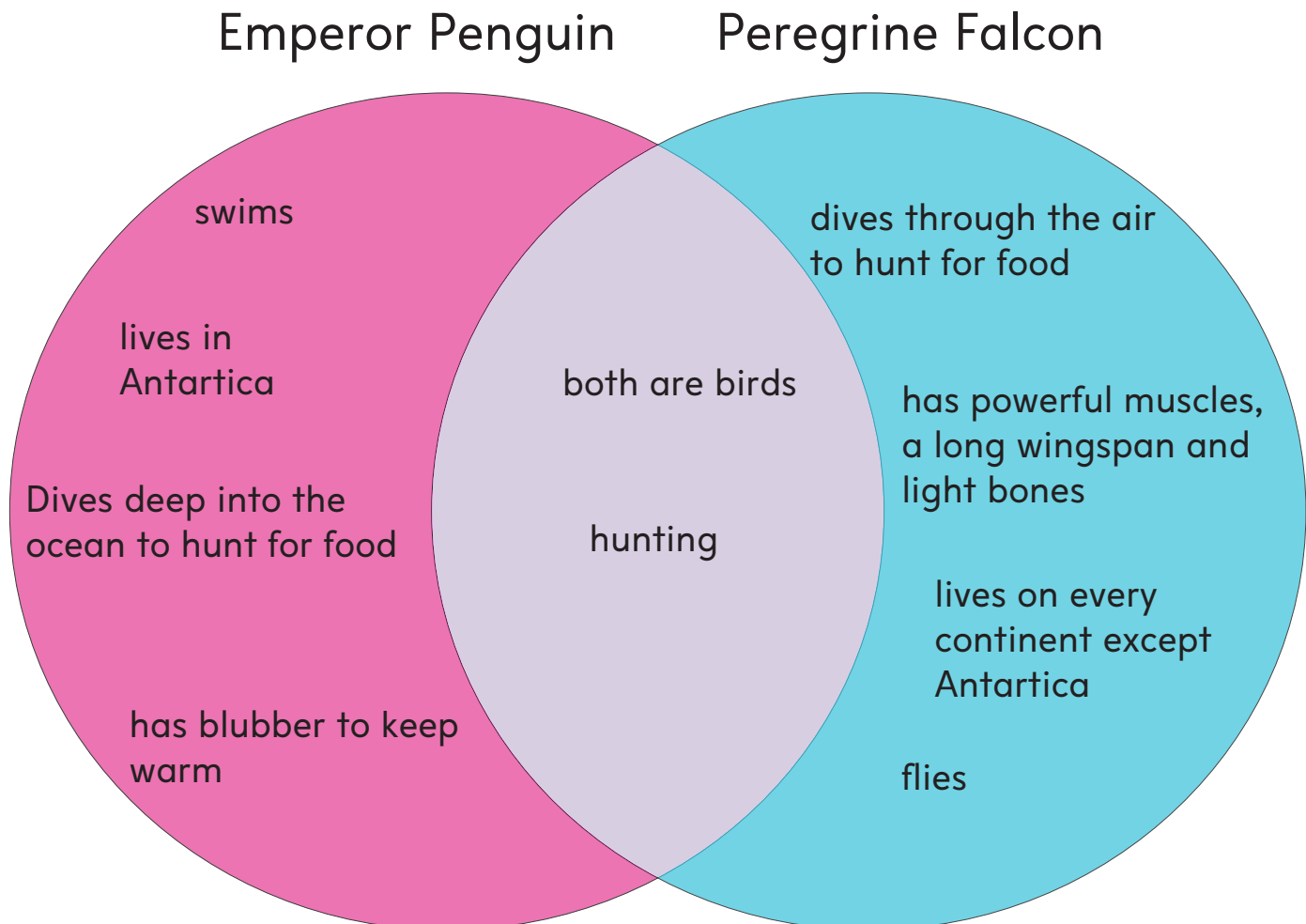


Compare and contrast the most important points presented by two texts on the same topic.

Venn Diagram Activity: Penguins and Falcons


Teach the students to compare and contrast the most important points presented in these two texts by using the following Venn diagram.



NAME _____ DATE _____

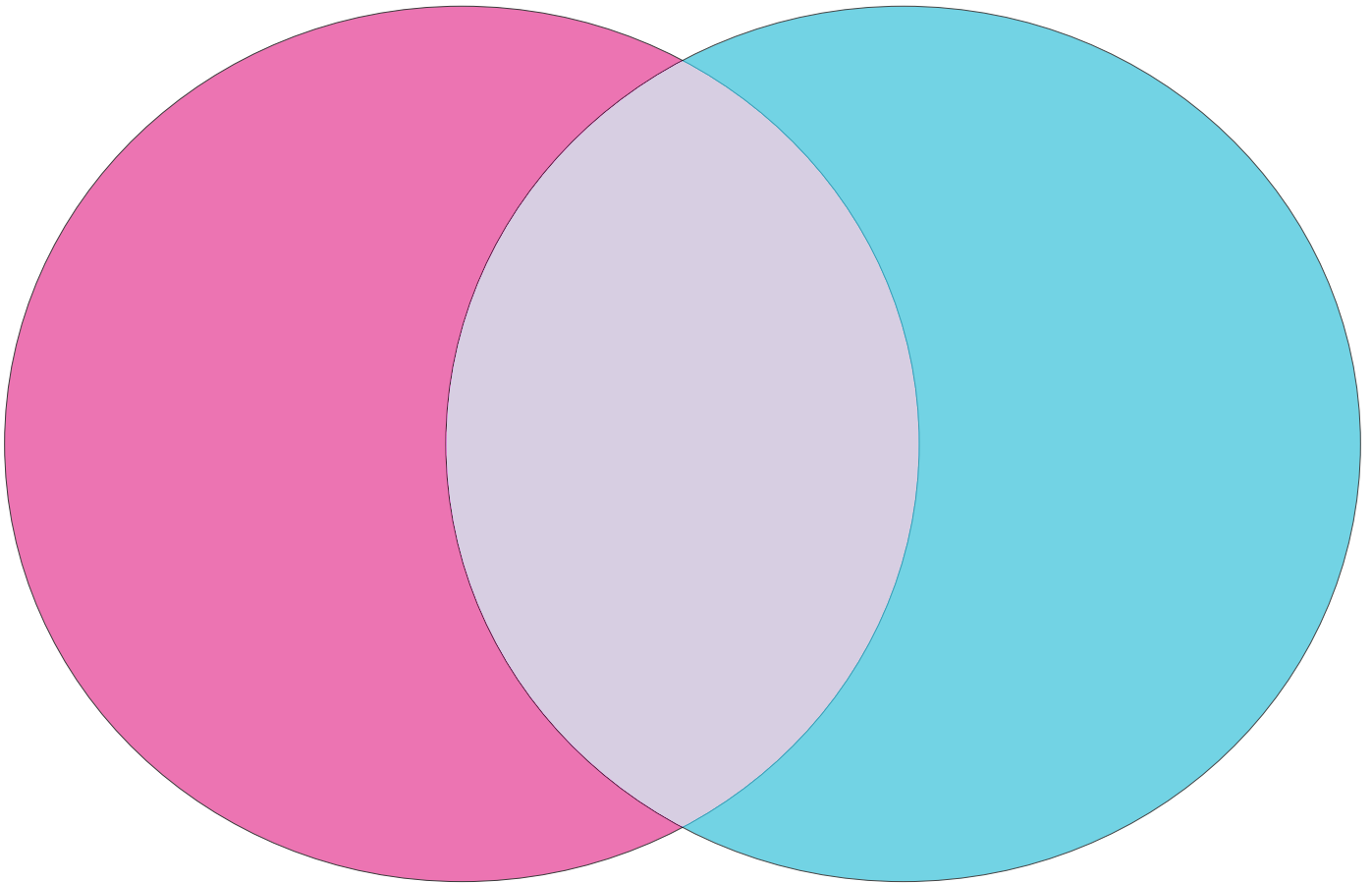


Venn Diagram: Penguins and Falcons

 Fill in each circle.

Emperor Penguin

Peregrine Falcon



Informational Text: Emperor Penguin

Penguins are birds, but they don't fly. The biggest penguin is the emperor penguin. The emperor penguin lives in Antarctica where it is always cold. Most animals would be too cold to live there. But emperor penguins are used to the cold. They have soft feathers called down that help them stay warm. They also have a layer of fat called blubber to keep them warm. The temperature can get as cold as 76 degrees below zero Fahrenheit! When it is really cold, the penguins huddle together to stay warm.

After a mother penguin lays an egg, she leaves to go find food. When emperor penguins hunt for food, they dive deep in the ocean. They can stay underwater for more than 20 minutes. While the mother penguin is gone, the father penguin keeps the egg warm. The father keeps the egg warm by keeping it on the top of his feet. While the father penguin takes care of the egg, he doesn't eat.

After the egg hatches, the mother comes back and gives food to the baby chick. Then the father penguin leaves to find food for himself. When a baby chick is born, it can't be in the cold like an adult penguin. The mother penguin keeps the chick warm until it is seven weeks old. Then the chicks all gather together to stay warm until they grow older.

In the summer, the ice melts and the penguins are closer to the ocean. This is when chicks learn to swim. A penguin becomes an adult 6 months after it is born. An emperor penguin can live for 20 years.

Informational Text: Peregrine Falcon

One of the most interesting birds is the falcon. One of the most well-known falcons is the peregrine. Its name means “wanderer.” That is because peregrine falcons often fly a long distance from their home. Peregrines can fly as far as 15,500 miles in one year!

Even though peregrines fly far every year, they remember how to get home. Some peregrines return to the same nest every year. Sometimes peregrines nest in the same place as their parents did. Some areas where peregrines make nests have been nests for hundreds of years.

Peregrines also fly fast and dive fast. With powerful chest muscles, a long wingspan, streamlined shape and lightweight bones, they are built for speed. They can dive at the speed of over 200 miles per hour! Peregrines dive fast in order to catch food.

Peregrine falcons live all over the world. They live on every continent except Antarctica. They can live in the desert or in forests. They can live in open spaces, near the ocean, or in the city. Some have even built nests on skyscrapers and bridges in big cities.

Peregrines are very good hunters. They can catch animals while they are flying. They usually hunt for other birds and bats. They are such good hunters that some are trained to help people hunt. This is called falconry. People who train falcons are falconers. Falconers can train falcons to fly away to find something and then come back. People have been doing this since before 200 BC.