

# Pierre the Penguin

## A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

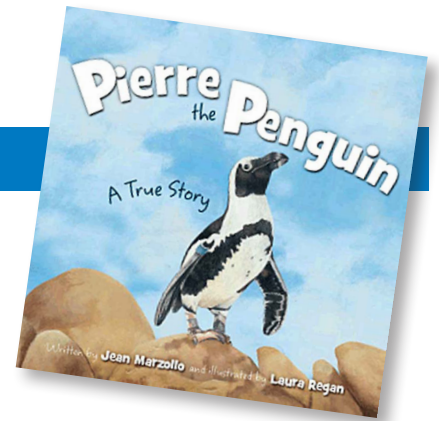
**Themes:** Animal Care, Habitats, Problem Solving, Careers

**Grade Level:** K to 1st grade

**Book Brief:** Pierre the penguin has lost his feathers! Pam, an aquatic biologist, comes up with a clever way to solve his problem.

**Author:**  
Jean Marzollo

**Illustrator:**  
Laura Regan



## TIME TO READ!

**Before reading, make connections:** What does your child already know about penguins? Where do they live? What do they like to do?

**While reading, make predictions:** Why do you think Pierre is losing his feathers? Can your child think up a solution?

**After reading, ask questions:**

- ◆ How do you think Pierre felt when the other penguins brayed at him?
- ◆ How are penguins like humans in the way they treated Pierre?
- ◆ Were you surprised by anything in the story?
- ◆ Can you think of another way Pierre's problem might have been solved?

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### PIERRE'S FEATHER EXPERIMENT

Materials: 2 zip-up plastic baggies, ice, feathers

Place ice in one plastic bag. Seal tightly. Let your child hold it. How does it feel? Put feathers in the other bag. This time, give your child the bag of feathers to hold first, then put the ice on top of it. How does that feel? How is it different from holding just the bag of ice? Based on your experiment, why does Pierre need his feathers? What do people use to keep warm?

### PENGUIN POTATO PRINT

Materials: 2 potatoes, black and white paint, paintbrush, blue paper, colored scrap paper, crayons, wiggle eyes

Cut a large and a small potato in half lengthwise. Paint the large potato half black; stamp it onto blue paper. This is the penguin's body. Paint on wings and

let dry. When dry, paint the small potato half white and stamp it onto the black penguin body. Cut a beak and feet out of orange craft paper and glue on the penguin. Add eyes. Make a landscape with paper scraps or crayons.

### MEASURING PENGUINS

Penguins come in many sizes. Pierre, an African penguin, was 18 inches (one and a half feet) tall. An Emperor penguin can grow up to four feet! Pick four different penguins. Look them up to find their average size. Measure the height of each penguin on a large piece of paper. What is the difference between the tallest and shortest penguin? How does your height compare to the penguins you found?



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### OTHER BOOKS ABOUT PENGUINS

*And Tango Makes Three*, Justin Richardson (2005),  
*I Wonder Why Penguins Can't Fly*, Pat Jacobs (2011),  
*National Geographic Reader: Penguins*, Anne Schreiber (2009).



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