

# Ornithology - Day 51

1. What are three reasons birds might fly in a V formation?

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is "upwash?" \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How much energy can a bird flying in V formation save? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What do birds that fly in a V formation have in common? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Why don't smaller birds fly in a V formation? \_\_\_\_\_

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6. What does the theory of "the selfish herd" suggest? \_\_\_\_\_

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## Answers

1.
  - 1) to stay in visual contact
  - 2) avoid collisions
  - 3) conserve energy
2. the upward force of a vortex
3. About 15%
4. They are large birds with a long wingspan
5. Their wings and flight patterns do not create consistent, reliable upwash for their flock mates to use.
6. The risk to each individual animal in a group from predators is reduced if enough other animals are between the individual and the predator. This results in flocks and herds.