

# Ornithology - Day 35

1. Approximately how many feathers does the average hummingbird have? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How many feathers were counted on an emperor penguin? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What are four functions of feathers mentioned in the video?

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

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

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

4) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Generally, what percent of a wild bird's body weight comes from feathers?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What are the three pigments that account for most colors in bird feathers?

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

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

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

6. How do birds acquire carotenoids? \_\_\_\_\_

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7. How do birds produce blue feathers when they do not have any blue pigments?

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8. What is “fright stress” or “shock molting” and how can it help protect a bird?

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## Answers

1. 900
2. 80,000
3. providing weather protection, camouflage, helping attract a mate, communication
4. 15-20 percent
5. melanin, porphyrins, and carotenoids
6. through their diet and the food they eat
7. light scattering
8. When a predator has a bird, it can drop all of its tail feathers at once, leaving the predator with nothing but a mouthful of feathers.