

Name: _____

Date: _____

Life Science

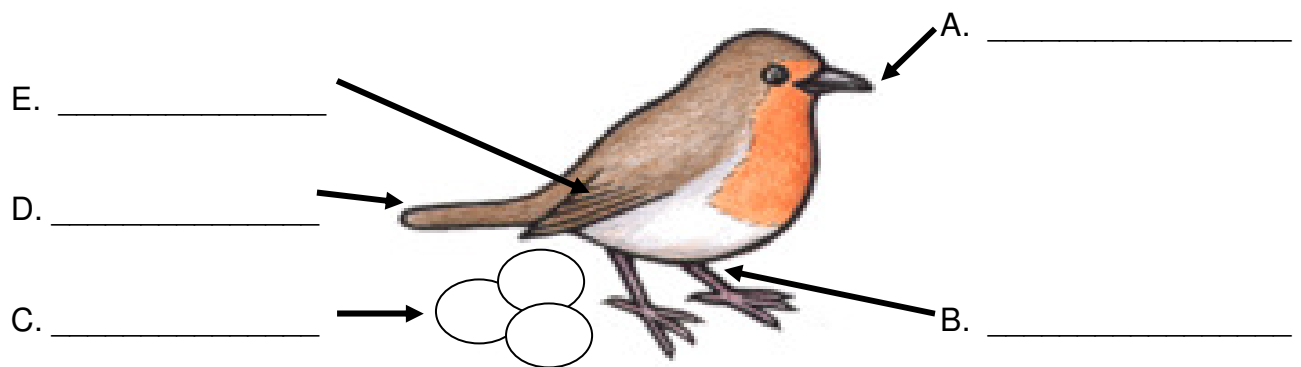
Period: _____

Section 5.3 – *Birds meet their needs on land, in water and in the air.*

As you read pages C173-179, answer the following questions

Bird species live in most environments.

1. Using the diagram below, and the text that you have read, identify the characteristics that distinguish birds as a group:



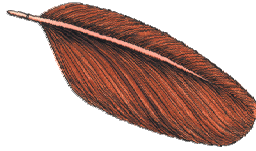
2. The beaks and scales on the legs of birds are made of keratin. If you recall, reptile scales are also made of keratin. What evidence might this provide about the evolutionary path of birds?

Birds can maintain body temperature.

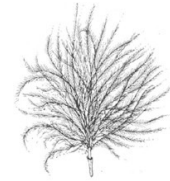
3. Birds are endothermic; amphibians and reptiles are ectotherms. How can endotherms like birds stay alive in colder climates than ectotherms?

4. How do birds generate the body heat that they need to maintain their body temperature?

5. Birds have two types of feathers that serve different functions. Label the two feathers below with their correct name and function:



_____ feather



_____ feather

Function: _____ Function: _____

6. In order for humans to maintain their body temperature, we sweat when we get too hot and we shiver when we get too cold. What do birds do to maintain their body temperature?

Most birds can fly.

7. From which prehistoric animal do scientists believe that today's birds evolved?

8. The bodies of birds are specially adapted for flight. Explain how the following structures are different in the body of a bird than in the body of animal that walks:

a. Endoskeleton: _____

b. Respiratory System: _____

c. Bones: _____

9. Give two examples of things that birds cannot do that help them be able to fly:

a. _____

b. _____

10. What are two benefits that birds experience from flight?

a. _____

b. _____

Birds lay eggs with hard shells.

11. How is reproduction in birds similar to reproduction in reptiles?

12. Why must birds incubate their eggs?

