



PROGRAM GOALS

- Learn penguin's adaptation to stay dry

GRADES

K to 2nd

MATERIALS

- Crayons
- Spray bottle
- Water

RECOMMENDED ASSESSMENT

- Ensure the students are actively engaged

How Do They Stay Dry?

Practice your students' critical thinking skills as they learn about the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo penguins! Did you know that penguins are able to keep themselves dry, especially after swimming in the water? See below for a variety of questions to engage your student even further:

- What does the penguins look like?
- Where does the black-footed penguins live?
- How do you think they are able to keep themselves dry?
- Can you help the penguins stay dry?

Students will color the penguin with crayons. They must color it entirely and use a thick coating. Ensure that students color the white spots with white crayon twice so that the experiment will work. Spray each penguin 2 to 3 times with a spray bottle to make sure the paper doesn't become saturated. Students will observe how the water repels off of their penguins. Discuss with students how the wax from the crayons keeps the water from absorbing their penguins. The crayons' wax resembles the wax on penguin's feather.

The black-footed penguins are from Africa, where their climate is very similar to ours in Indiana! Penguins are covered in feathers that are densely packed together. These feathers have an oil-producing gland that makes their feathers waxy, which helps repel the water to keep them dry. Be on the lookout for the penguins at the zoo! Share your lessons with the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo. Tag #fwkidszoo or email education@kidszoo.org to express how you used these supplemental activities!





Keeping Penguins Dry

