

Name: _____

Date: _____

Theme Based Study Sheet

Vulture facts

Vultures are large, scavenging birds of prey that eat carrion.

The Ruppell's vulture is one of the world's highest flying birds. In 1973 one collided with an airplane at 11200 m.

A threatened vulture uses its smelly, corrosive vomit as a defensive projectile.

Vultures can weigh up to 12 kg and have a wingspan of up to 3 m.

A flight of vultures circling together is called a kettle.

Do you know any more interesting facts about vultures?



Vulture report

In many films there is a common image of vultures circling overhead in the desert waiting for their 'lunch' to die. Vultures became a symbol of impending death. This image, combined with the fact they eat carrion, means that vultures are usually not popular with people. However, vultures do serve a purpose.

Write a short information report explaining how vultures serve a useful purpose in disposing of dead and decaying animal remains.

What might happen if there were no vultures?

What other animals mainly eat carrion?

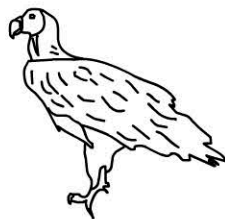
Vulture eyesight

Vultures have incredible eyesight.

A soaring vulture can spot a 1 meter animal carcass from up to 6km away.

Write different letters of the alphabet on some small sheets of paper.

On a playing field, place the letters at various distances. Record the maximum distance where you can accurately identify different letters. Repeat this exercise using a pair of binoculars or a telescope. Describe the difference when you are able to see "like a vulture".



Number Crunchers

Vinnie the vulture flew every day for a week looking for a tasty bit of carrion. (That's the carcasses of dead animals)

Here are the distances Vinnie flew each day.

Monday 86 km

Friday 44 km

Tuesday 98 km

Saturday 114 km

Wednesday 140 km

Sunday 93 km

Thursday 66 km

What was the total distance Vinnie flew in the week?

How much further did Vinnie fly on Saturday than on Thursday?

Write the days in order from the longest distance to the shortest distance flown.



Vulture restaurant

Vultures mainly feed on the carcasses of dead animals. Vulture stomach acid is very corrosive. It kills bacteria and infections which would be lethal to any other birds of prey.

Imagine you are opening a restaurant for vultures. Design and write a humorous menu for your vulture guests.

What is the name of your restaurant?

What are the most popular dishes?



For more fun and revision you can play games online using Studyladder's website.