

Name _____

Alternative Method of Instruction Verification Form

Day 1 _____ Day 2 _____ Day 3 _____ Day 4 _____ Day 5 _____
Day 6 _____ Day 7 _____ Day 8 ✓ Day 9 _____ Day 10 _____

AMI

This form certifies that your child completed work for the designated day.
This will allow your child to receive attendance credit for this day. In the
event it is not completed, your child will receive an unexcused absence.

My child, _____ completed all work assigned
for Day _____
My child also worked on the following activities:

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

4th Grade

Walnut Ridge Elementary

Alternative Method of Instruction Verification Form

by Guy Bellows III

Day 1 _____ Day 2 _____ Day 3 _____ Day 4 _____ Day 5 _____
Day 6 _____ Day 7 _____ Day 8 ☒ Day 9 _____ Day 10 _____

**This form certifies that your child completed work for the designated day.
This will allow your child to receive attendance credit for this day. In the
event it is not completed, your child will receive an unexcused absence.**

**My child, _____ completed all work assigned
for Day _____.**

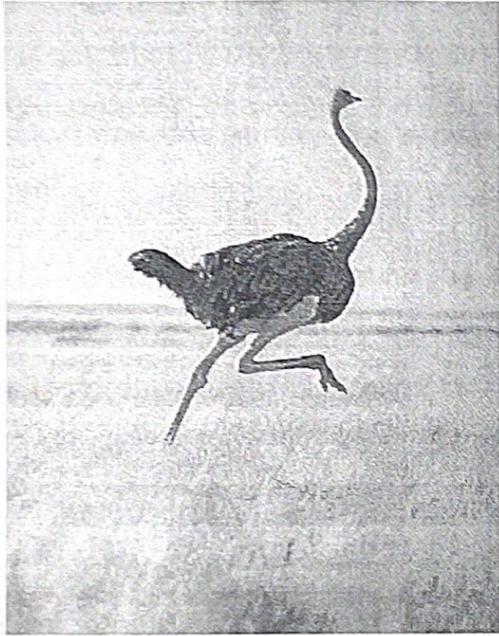
My child also worked on the following website:

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Name: _____

The Big Ostrich

by Guy Belleranti



The ostrich of Africa is a big animal. Growing as tall as nine feet and sometimes weighing as much as 300 pounds, it is the world's largest living bird.

An ostrich starts out big right from the beginning of its life. It hatches from an egg that weighs up to three pounds and measures about six inches long and five inches wide. The egg is too big for a lion to get into its jaws to crush with its teeth. The shell is also very thick and tough.

Some natives even use ostrich eggs as canteens for holding water.

When the egg hatches, the ostrich chick is as big as a full-sized chicken. Six months later the ostrich is already six feet tall. That's quite a growth spurt!

Speaking of big, have you ever noticed an ostrich's eyes? Each eye is two inches across. That's the size of a tennis ball and five times larger than a human's eye.

Ratites: Flightless Birds

The ostrich is a *ratite*. A *ratite* is a bird with a reduced keel, or no keel at all, on its breastbone. The keel is what anchors the muscles needed for wing movement.

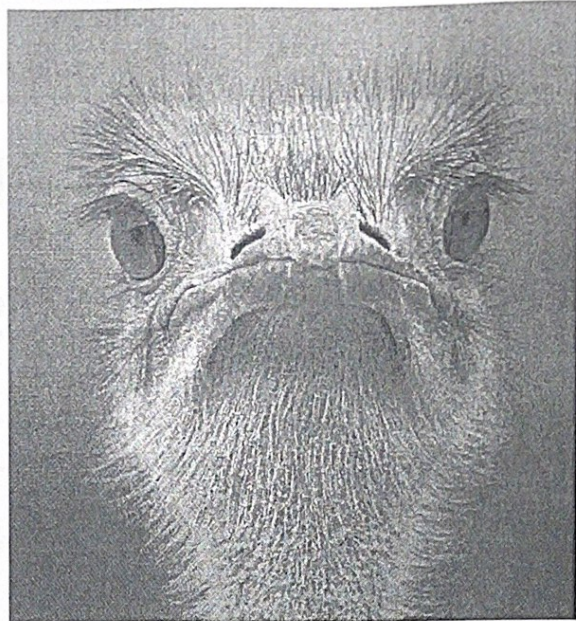
Without a keel, a bird cannot fly.

Other *ratites* include the emu, cassowary, kiwi and rhea.

It's the largest eye of any land animal, including the elephant. In fact, an ostrich's eye weighs twice as much as its brain!

Having huge eyes and an impressive height help the ostrich see long distances. If it spots a predator like a cheetah, lion, or leopard, the ostrich can run fast on its long legs. How fast? Over 40 miles an hour for a short distance and 30 miles an hour for up to ten miles. A predator must sneak up really close to catch this flightless bird. Otherwise, the ostrich, which is the fastest two-legged runner in the world, will get away.

An ostrich can also stand its ground and defend itself. Its long powerful legs can kick hard. And the sharp toenail on the larger of its two toes can rip an animal open. One thing's for sure, it's not easy to mess with an ostrich!



About the Author

Guy Belleranti is an author of fiction, poetry, articles, puzzles, and humor for children and adults. He also works as a docent at the Reid Park Zoo in Tucson, Arizona. The information in this article comes from his experiences teaching children about the wild animals at the zoo.

Name: _____

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1. According to the article, what makes an ostrich egg so difficult for a predator to destroy? Use a complete sentence.

2. How long does it take for an ostrich chick to reach six feet in height?

About how many more feet will the ostrich grow in order to reach its full height?

3. Choose the statement about ostriches' eyes that is correct.

- a. An ostrich's eyes are very large, but they can only see short distances.
- b. An ostrich's eyes are the largest eyes of any animal living today.
- c. An ostrich's eyes weigh twice as much as a human's eyes.
- d. An ostrich's eyes are five times as large as a human's eyes.

4. Reread the following sentence from the article.

Some natives even use ostrich eggs as canteens for holding water.

Which is the best definition for the underlined word?

- a. packages
- b. containers
- c. ponds
- d. wells

5. What is one thing a *ratite* cannot do that most birds can? _____

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Match each vocabulary word from the article with the correct definition.

On the lines below, describe three ways the ostrich protects itself from predators. Be sure to use complete sentences.

_____ 1. impressive

a. unable to fly

_____ 2. distance

b. difficult to break or damage

_____ 3. flightless

c. holds something in place

_____ 4. predator

d. deserving admiration

_____ 5. tough

e. made less or smaller in size

_____ 6. noticed

f. the amount of space between two points

_____ 7. reduced

g. an animal that hunts other animals for food

_____ 8. anchors

h. observed

Name: _____

The Big Ostrich

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In the article, "The Big Ostrich," you learned about the many advantages ostriches have when they need to protect themselves from predators.



On the lines below, describe three ways the ostrich protects itself from predators. Be sure to use complete sentences.

Number of Students

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

Q. 1. How does this graph show?

2. According to this graph, How many TOTAL students were asked about their favorite fruit?

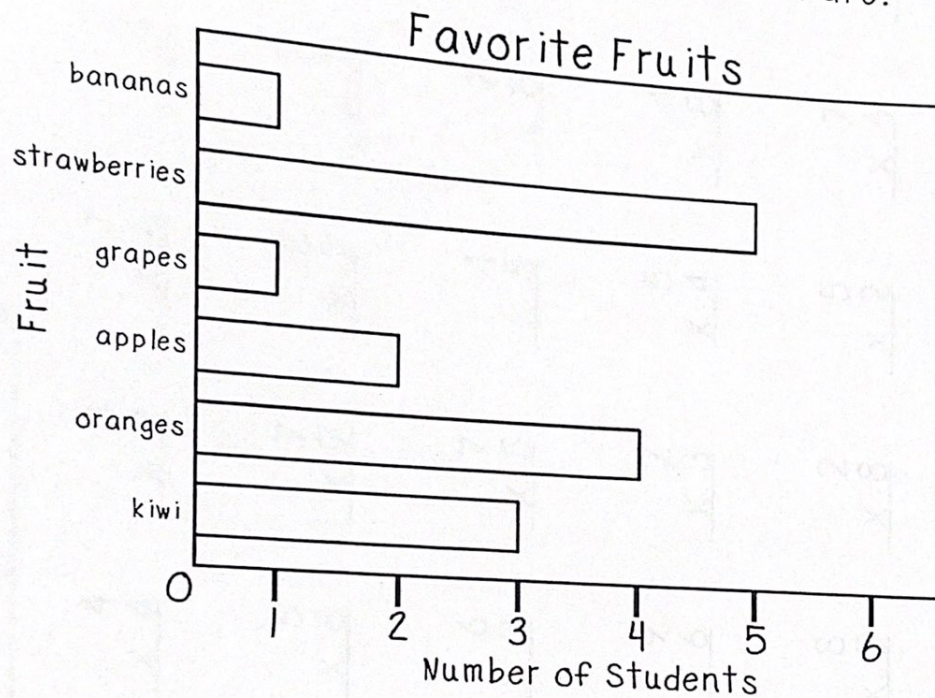
3. Which fruit(s) received the fewest votes?

4. How many votes did each fruit receive?

5. Did any fruit appear to receive less than 1 vote?

6. What is the combined number of votes for the apples and

Date:



1. What does this graph show?
2. According to this graph, How many TOTAL students were asked about their favorite fruit?
3. Which fruit(s) received the fewest votes?
4. How many fewer votes did bananas receive than oranges?
5. Did kiwi or apples receive less votes?
6. What is the combined number of votes for kiwi, apples, and bananas?

Name: _____

Basic Multiplication

$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ \times 10 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \\ \times \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \times 10 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \times \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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Time: _____ minutes Score: _____ out of 50