



How to use

Unfolding knowledge

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For the minibook:

- (1) pass it through your printer using DUPLEX setting with print to fit and page scaling switched OFF (so that you don't get white margins).
- (2) fold once across the middle and cut along fold.
- (3) staple or hot glue the spine to make a conventional book.

As you make more minibooks, keep the set in a box, and make class sets.

Give them out as non-fiction reading units.

Make English comprehensions and summaries about them.

Help children to learn about how to help the planet by using examples like this.

CVisionaries
mini books, maxi knowledge

I am an albatross



Hello.

I am, of course, one of the world's most famous birds, forever travelling in the winds above the Southern Ocean, gliding with my huge wings.

I am very choosy about where I nest, and we albatrosses select remote ocean islands to bring up our chicks.

Once my chicks can fend for themselves, it is time to go off wandering the oceans alone again.

On many years I fly right around the world before coming to land again for the next breeding season.

See you again around the Southern Ocean sometime.

Goodbye.

Listen to my animalcast by logging in to the website. Search 'Cold lands' and choose audio adventures. Then polar. Click number 6. Finished with me? Pass me to a friend or recycle me.



Did you notice the tubes on each side of my beak? If they were on an aircraft they would be called measuring instruments. On me, they are just my nose, but they do the same job. As I glide along, the air goes into them, and that tells my brain how fast I am flying. That knowledge allows me to change height, or the way I have my wings without giving it the slightest thought.

The same nostrils give me an amazing sense of smell, so I can detect fish and other animals on the surface from far away.

I have the biggest wingspan of any bird on Earth. My wings stretch out over 3 metres. My wings are also unusual, in so far as they are stiff and thickened on the leading edge. It's

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I mainly get my food during the day, where I snap up squid and fish from the surface. If needed I can also dive a few metres into the water.



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The only way I can stay in the air for so long is to use strong winds. Light winds are no use to me as I'm so heavy. So I have to live in areas which always have strong winds. That is why I stay in the Southern Ocean.

Sometimes the winds ease back, and then they don't give enough lift for me to fly. At that point there is nothing for it but to rest on the sea until the wind picks up again.

But getting into flight is always a struggle. I have to take a run over the sea in order to get enough air under my wings to take off.

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something that aircraft designers have copied. I can fly a thousand kilometres a day without flapping my wings, but just using the wind. Amazing, eh?

I'm so good at gliding that my heart rate is just about the same as when I'm at rest on land. This shows how little effort I have to put into gliding, and why I can keep going almost indefinitely.

You see, food is hard to come by here, so I need to travel huge distances just to meet my needs. If I were to flap my wings all the time, I would use up more energy than I would get from my occasional meals, so that is not good. No, I need to glide – and I am very good at it.

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