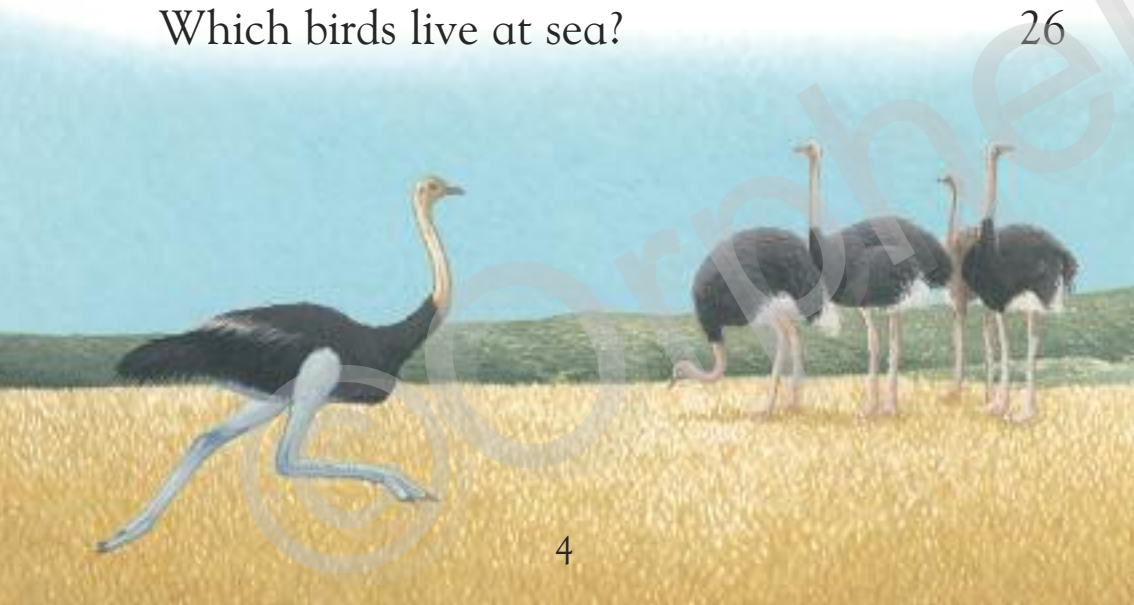


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Birds

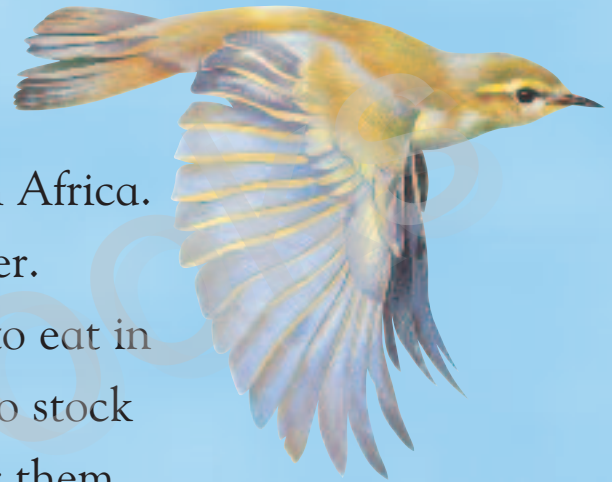
Eagles, penguins, ostriches, seagulls, parrots, pigeons ... we are all birds. We are the only animals that have feathers. They keep us warm and dry. We all have a pair of feathery wings, two legs, a beak and claws. Most, but not all, of us can fly. Everything else about us is different.



How far can birds fly?

Many birds fly a long way when they migrate, but I, the Arctic tern, am the distance champion! I breed during the Arctic summer, then fly 13,000 kilometres to Antarctica, to feed. It's summer there too.

I fly all the way from Siberia to southern Africa. I'm a willow warbler. There's very little to eat in deserts, so I have to stock up before I fly over them.

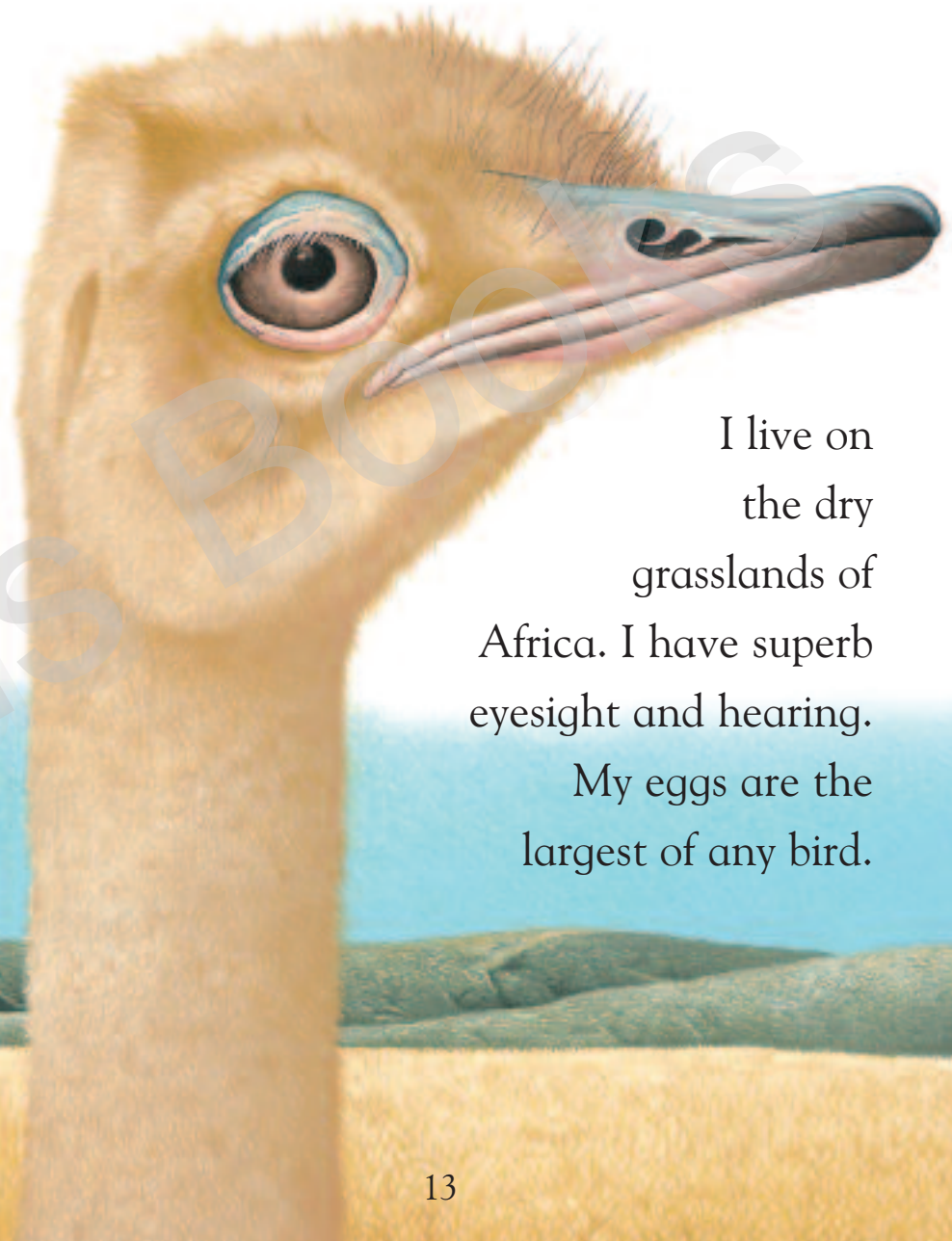


We slender-billed shearwaters nest on islands off Australia, then set off on a seven-month journey around the Pacific Ocean.



How fast can an ostrich run?

I am, without doubt, the fastest thing on two legs. I can leave you humans gasping well behind: my top speed is 70 kilometres per hour! I use my powerful legs and two-toed feet to run away from predators, such as lions. I usually get a head start, as I can often spot them from far away.



I live on the dry grasslands of Africa. I have superb eyesight and hearing. My eggs are the largest of any bird.