

The smallest bird in the world and the largest bird in the world

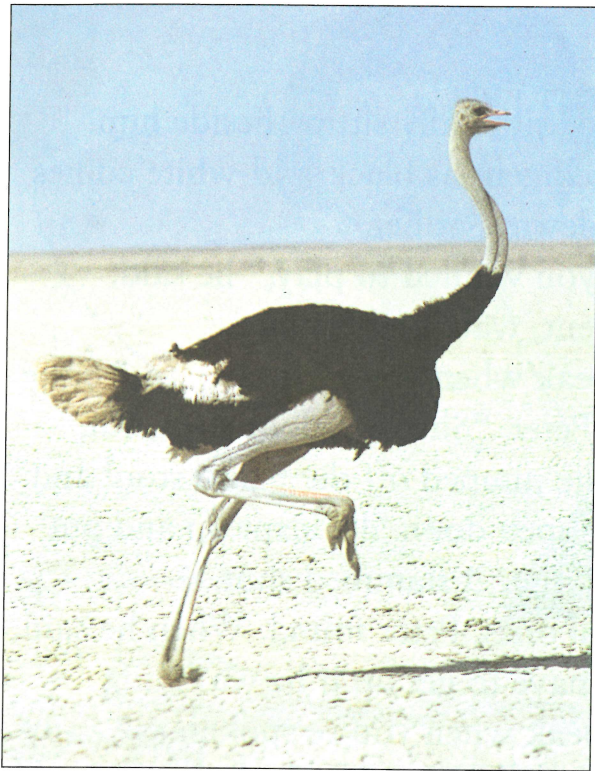
The smallest bird in the world

The smallest bird in the world is the bee humming bird. This bird comes from Cuba, which is an island near America. All humming birds are small, but this one is very small. It is about as long as your little finger. It is called a bee humming bird because it is not much bigger than a bee.

Humming birds are different from other birds in the way they fly. They move their wings so fast that you can hardly see them. The wings make a humming sound and that is how the birds get their name.

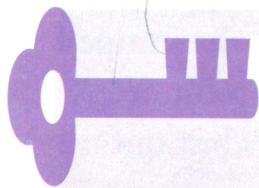
The humming bird is like a little helicopter. Helicopters can stay in one place in the air. This is called hovering. Most other birds are like aeroplanes. Once they are in the air they have to keep going forwards. But a humming bird can hover in one place and fly backwards as well as forwards, just like a helicopter.





The largest bird in the world
The largest bird in the world is the ostrich. Most ostriches live in Africa. An ostrich is as tall as a human. It is so strong that a child can sit on its back. It can run as fast as a horse and it can kick as hard as a horse, too!

An ostrich's wings are very small and it cannot fly. But it uses its wings to help it to keep its balance when it runs fast.



Answer in sentences.

- 1 What part of a humming bird makes a humming noise?
- 2 What do ostriches use their wings for?
- 3 Write down two ways in which a humming bird is like a helicopter.
- 4 Write down two ways in which an ostrich is like a horse.
- 5 Why are the smallest kind of humming birds called bee humming birds?
- 6 In which country would you see bee humming birds flying around?
- 7 Where do most ostriches live?