



Ever spotted a ducky with a fancy collar? That's probably a Ring-necked Duck! These ducks are quite the lookers with their glossy black heads and backs, and a chic white ring around their bill. Males are particularly stylish with a purplish-black chest and two white rings on their neck. Females, on the other hand, are more modest with their light brown feathers.

Guess what's for dinner? If you're a Ring-necked Duck, it's a buffet of underwater treats! They are diving ducks and like to eat seeds of pondweeds, wild rice, bulrushes, and sometimes small fish and insects. They're even known to dive as deep as 30 feet to fetch their food. Imagine being able to hold your breath and dive that deep for a snack!

Let's embark on the journey of a Ring-necked Duck's life. After hatching, the ducklings leave the nest within a day and can swim and feed themselves immediately. However, they don't start flying until they're about 50-55 days old. Ring-necked Ducks live mostly in the northern parts of North America and fly south when it starts to get chilly.



Ring-necked Ducks have a quiet life, but they do interact with humans and other animals. People often see them in city parks and they're popular with birdwatchers. They don't have too many enemies, but sometimes have to watch out for eagles, hawks, and raccoons. Did you know that they're actually named for the chestnut-colored ring around their neck, which is hard to see? Now that's a fun fact to share at your next playdate!



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What is the color of the chest of male Ring-necked Ducks?
 - A. Purplish-black
 - B. Tan-Brown
 - C. Yellow-orange
 - D. White-gray

- 2) Which of the following do ring-necked ducks like to eat?
 - A. Small rodents
 - B. Nuts and legumes
 - C. Small birds like finches
 - D. seeds of pondweeds

- 3) When do the Ring-necked Ducks start flying?
 - A. After a year
 - B. About 10 days old
 - C. As soon as they hatch
 - D. About 50-55 days old

- 4) What color is the ring-necked ducks head?
 - A. Tan
 - B. Gray
 - C. White
 - D. Black

- 5) For what are Ring-necked Ducks named?
 - A. Their ability to dive through rings
 - B. The chestnut-colored ring around their neck
 - C. The way they build their nests in rings
 - D. The white ring around their bill

- 6) What is the color of the feathers of female Ring-necked Ducks?
 - A. Brown
 - B. Red
 - C. Black
 - D. Green

- 7) Where do Ring-necked Ducks live mostly?
 - A. North America
 - B. Antarctica
 - C. Asia
 - D. Africa

- 8) How deep can Ring-necked Ducks dive for their food?
 - A. No more than 1 feet
 - B. As deep as 30 feet
 - C. Only on the surface
 - D. Up to 100 feet

- 9) What color is the ring around a Ring-necked Duck's bill?
 - A. Black
 - B. Brown
 - C. White
 - D. Purple

- 10) What can Ring-necked Ducks do after a day of hatching?
 - A. Swim and feed themselves
 - B. Build nests
 - C. Fly
 - D. Sing

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 11) "When the weather turns chilly, I pack my things and head south. I prefer the warmer climates."



- 12) "My dinner plate includes water plants like seaweed, rice, and bulrushes."
- 13) "Us males are quite stylish with a purplish-black chest and two white rings on the neck."
- 14) "I start flying immediately after hatching."
- 15) "I couldn't start flying until I was almost 2 months old."
- 16) "I mainly eat large fish and mammals."
- 17) "I like to stay in the nest for a few weeks after hatching."
- 18) "I got my name because of the colored ring around my neck."
- 19) "Hawks and raccoons keep me on my toes, but I don't run into too many dangers."
- 20) "I live mostly in the northern parts of North America."
- 21) "I'm called a Ring-necked Duck because of the white ring around my bill."
- 22) "Just one day after hatching, I was ready to swim and feed myself."
- 23) "I cannot swim or feed myself after I hatch."
- 24) "Did you know that I can dive deep down to 30 feet to find my food? That's a long way to go for a snack!"
- 25) "We Ring-necked Ducks don't dive for our food, instead we catch it out of the air."
- 26) "I'm mostly found in the southern parts of North America."
- 27) "Females like me have modest but beautiful light brown feathers."

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 28) Ring-necked Ducklings start flying when they are around 50 days old.
- 29) The fact that Baby Ring-necked Ducks can swim and feed themselves right after hatching is amazing.
- 30) Ring-necked Ducks can dive as deep as 30 feet to fetch their food.
- 31) The way Ring-necked Ducks dive as deep as 30 feet to fetch their food is pretty impressive.
- 32) Female Ring-necked Ducks have light brown feathers.
- 33) It is always a pleasure to see Ring-necked Ducks in city parks.
- 34) Ring-necked Ducks mostly live in the northern parts of North America and migrate south in colder seasons.
- 35) Ring-necked Ducks are diving ducks that eat seeds of pondweeds, wild rice, bulrushes, and sometimes small fish and insects.
- 36) Female Ring-necked Ducks, with their light brown feathers, are the prettiest of all ducks.
- 37) The glossy black heads of Ring-necked Ducks make them look mysterious.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 38) Male and female Ring-necked ducks have different color feathers.
- 39) Ring-necked ducks have a light brown head and back.
- 40) Ring-necked ducks can swim immediately after they hatch.
- 41) All Ring-necked Ducks have two white rings on their neck.
- 42) Male ring-necked ducks have a purple chest.



- 67) Their name comes from a faint brownish ring around the neck of the male, which is hard to see, such an interesting fact!
- 68) These ducks are often seen plunging their heads underwater in the search for food, what a sight!



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| 1. <u> A </u> | 26. <u> false </u> | 51. <u> A </u> |
| 2. <u> D </u> | 27. <u> true </u> | 52. <u> C </u> |
| 3. <u> D </u> | 28. <u> fact </u> | 53. <u> declarative </u> |
| 4. <u> D </u> | 29. <u> opinion </u> | 54. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 5. <u> B </u> | 30. <u> fact </u> | 55. <u> exclamatory </u> |
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| 10. <u> A </u> | 35. <u> fact </u> | 60. <u> exclamatory </u> |
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A. Purplish-black
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C. _____
D. _____
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A. After a year
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C. _____
D. About 50-55 days old
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C. _____
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