



# Crystal Springs Live!





Thank you for choosing Crystal Springs LIVE!

Crystal Springs Preserve and WaterVentures Florida's Learning Lab are committed to bringing quality environmental education programs to teachers and parents. Our programs are aligned with NGSSS and SNF standards to align with topics taught in classrooms. Each program has been created with the student in mind and conveys important environmental topics in a fun and engaging manner. Additionally, supplemental activities, vocabulary lists, pre/post tests and more are offered to provide an all-encompassing program for students in and out of the classroom.

For those of you unfamiliar with Crystal Springs or WaterVentures, we invite you to explore our websites. ([www.crystalspringsfoundation.org](http://www.crystalspringsfoundation.org) and [www.waterventures.us](http://www.waterventures.us)). Crystal Springs Preserve is a 530-acre living laboratory that is dedicated to bringing directed learning opportunities to visitors through immersion into the pristine habitat of the preserve. WaterVentures was created to extend this learning throughout the state of Florida. As a high-tech mobile learning lab, WaterVentures brings those same fun and engaging environmental programs to schools free of charge. Both are devoted to inspiring guests to be responsible environmental stewards of Florida's precious natural resources.

We hope you enjoy our virtual programs and please do not forget to check out the offerings of Crystal Springs Preserve and WaterVentures!

Happy learning!

## Great Blue Heron: King of the Wading Birds! Pre/Post Test

- 1) What do you call a bird with long legs that hunts and feeds in shallow water?
  - a. Wading bird
  - b. Song bird
  - c. Raptor
  - d. None of the above
  
- 2) Where can you find great blue herons?
  - a. Ocean shorelines
  - b. Lake edges
  - c. River bank
  - d. All of the above
  
- 3) How quickly can a great blue heron strike its prey?
  - a. Less than 1 second
  - b. Within 10 seconds
  - c. Within 3 seconds
  - d. None of the above
  
- 4) What do great blue herons eat?
  - a. Small fish
  - b. Crabs
  - c. Plants
  - d. Both A and B
  
- 5) What is the wingspan of an adult great blue heron?
  - a. 10 feet
  - b. 20 feet
  - c. 6 feet
  - d. 2 feet

- 6) How tall can a male great blue heron get?
  - a. 4 feet
  - b. 6 feet
  - c. 10 feet
  - d. None of the above
  
- 7) What do great blue herons use their chest feathers for?
  - a. To show off during breeding season
  - b. To help remove slime and fish oil off of their feathers
  - c. To attract fish to come to them
  - d. None of the above
  
- 8) Juvenile great blue herons will begin to fly when they are \_\_\_\_\_ old.
  - a. 2 months
  - b. 6 months
  - c. 4 months
  - d. Never
  
- 9) Herons fly with their neck in an 'S' shape.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 10) How can you help the population of great blue herons?
  - a. Take care of their habitat
  - b. Keep waterways clean and healthy
  - c. Clean up fishing line and hooks
  - d. All of the above



## Great Blue Heron: King of the Wading Birds! Pre/Post Test Answer Key

- 1) A
- 2) D
- 3) A
- 4) D
- 5) C
- 6) A
- 7) B
- 8) A
- 9) A
- 10) D

## PRE/POST EXHIBIT DATA SUBMISSION FORM

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Date of Program  |  |
| School name  |  |
| Teacher name   |  |
| Number of students taking the Pre-test and Number taking Post-test |  |
| Pre-test average percentage *                                      |  |
| Post-test average percentage *                                     |  |

\*Scoring all tests, adding up all scores, and dividing by the number of students that took the test will obtain an average percentage.

## Great Blue Heron: King of the Wading Birds! Vocabulary Words

Adaptable- being able to adjust to new conditions or surroundings.

Beak- the pointy part of a bird's jaw.

Clutch- the total number of eggs laid in one nesting attempt.

Colonies- a large congregation of individuals of one or more species nesting in a particular location.

Heron- a type of wading bird characterized by its long legs that hunts and feeds in shallow water.

Heronries- a breeding colony of herons.

Juvenile- the immature stage of a great blue heron. Larger than a chick but not quite an adult.

Opportunistic- taking advantage of certain opportunities as they arise.

Sustain- to support physically.

Thriving- doing well in terms of population numbers.

Wading Bird- a water bird typically with long legs that wades in the water.



## Great Blue Heron: King of the Wading Birds! Standards

SC.1.L.17.1

SC.2.L.17.1

SC.3.L.15.1

SC.4.L.16.3

SC.4.L.17.4

# Great Blue Heron: King of the Wading Birds!

## Supplemental Activities- Word Search

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Created with TheTeachersCorner.net Word Search Maker



### Great Blue Heron

Circle the Words!

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| I | S | O | G | Q | U | D | X | M | I | A | S | K | C | J | F | L | F | O | Z |
| I | W | Y | W | U | Y | Z | Z | N | S | E | O | U | L | C | W | S | B | R | W |
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| Q | K | P | I | H | F | D | D | D | Z | H | F | R | N | N | K | C | K | B | X |
| Y | I | F | D | O | N | M | J | R | N | A | J | O | U | L | A | T | Y | K | J |
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ADAPTABLE  
HERON  
WADING BIRD  
JUVENILE

BEAK  
OPPORTUNISTIC  
THRIVING  
FEATHER

COLONIES  
SUSTAIN  
CLUTCH



# Great Blue Heron: King of the Wading Birds!

## Supplemental Activities- Word Search Answer Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Created with TheTeachersCorner.net Word Search Maker



### Great Blue Heron

Circle the Words!

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| I | W | Y | W | U | Y | Z | Z | N | S | E | O | U | L | C | W | S | B | R | W |
| P | D | C | E | P | U | X | W | P | T | J | L | Z | U | Q | K | H | N | E | L |
| W | A | R | S | S | Y | G | K | P | H | T | D | J | T | R | E | G | D | H | U |
| R | A | M | B | N | Q | S | J | J | R | B | C | X | C | S | J | P | F | O | V |
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| Q | K | P | I | H | F | D | D | D | Z | H | F | R | N | N | K | C | K | B | X |
| Y | I | F | D | O | N | M | J | R | N | A | J | O | U | L | A | T | Y | K | J |
| Q | F | P | W | Y | K | P | W | Z | W | I | Z | P | H | T | Y | U | A | B | Z |
| O | V | S | S | M | N | B | A | N | L | U | A | P | I | E | B | E | N | C | H |
| E | K | G | G | X | N | U | Z | T | F | Q | Y | O | D | O | B | Z | A | J | P |
| F | N | D | R | E | B | O | M | T | O | U | R | R | C | B | Q | Y | J | T | S |

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CLUTCH



## Great Blue Heron: King of the Wading Birds! Supplemental Activities- Complete the Sentence

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Complete the Sentence

Use the words in the list below to complete the sentence

Created on TheTeachersCorner.net Fill-in-the-Blank Maker

1. Great blue herons will \_\_\_\_\_ their eggs for \_\_\_\_\_ days.
2. Great blue herons will lay between 2-4 eggs in their \_\_\_\_\_
3. Both \_\_\_\_\_ are responsible for feeding baby chicks.
4. Great blue herons use their \_\_\_\_\_ feathers for removing \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ oils.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ of a great blue heron is \_\_\_\_\_ feet.
6. The height of an adult male great blue heron is \_\_\_\_\_ feet.
7. Great blue herons eat \_\_\_\_\_ and small \_\_\_\_\_
8. Great blue herons can strike in less than \_\_\_\_\_ second.
9. Great blue herons can be found near ocean \_\_\_\_\_ river \_\_\_\_\_ and lake \_\_\_\_\_
10. It takes the \_\_\_\_\_ great blue heron up to \_\_\_\_\_ weeks to build the nest.

banks male chest parents rodents shorelines slime 4 incubate 1 fish 2  
wingspan edges fish clutch crabs 6 28



# Great Blue Heron: King of the Wading Birds!

## Supplemental Activities- Complete the Sentence Answer Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### complete the sentence

Use the words in the list below to complete the sentence

Created on TheTeachersCorner.net Fill-in-the-Blank Maker

1. Great blue herons will incubate their eggs for 28 days.
2. Great blue herons will lay between 2-4 eggs in their clutch.
3. Both parents are responsible for feeding baby chicks.
4. Great blue herons use their chest feathers for removing slime and fish oils.
5. The wingspan of a great blue heron is 6 feet.
6. The height of an adult male great blue heron is 4 feet.
7. Great blue herons eat fish, crabs, and small rodents.
8. Great blue herons can strike in less than 1 second.
9. Great blue herons can be found near ocean shorelines, river banks, and lake edges.
10. It takes the male great blue heron up to 2 weeks to build the nest.

banks male chest parents rodents shorelines slime 4 incubate 1 fish 2  
wingspan edges fish clutch crabs 6 28





## Great Blue Heron: King of the Wading Birds! Discussion Questions

- 1) According to All About Birds, "Great blue herons congregate at fish hatcheries, creating potential problems for the fish farmers. A study found that herons ate mostly diseased fish that would have died shortly anyway. Sick fish spent more time near the surface of the water where they were more vulnerable to the herons."

Although it seems like the great blue heron is a benefit to the fish farmer, what could be the impact on the great blue heron from eating diseased fish?

- 11) What few predators do great blue herons have and why? How would these predators be affected by the above scenario?



## Great Blue Heron: King of the Wading Birds! Supplemental Websites/Videos

National Audubon Society, 2020

"Great Blue Heron"

<https://www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird/great-blue-heron>

LearnCreateLove, 2020

"Printable Heron Craft"

<http://learncreatelove.com/printable-heron-craft/>

National Geographic, 2016

"Heron's have a Secret Weapon for Catching Fish: The Deathblow"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qpYkzsJlQ4M>