

Read the following article and answer the questions.

Bald Eagles of the Hudson River



The bald eagle is found all over North America, from Alaska and Canada to northern Mexico. Along the Hudson **River** there are two different groups of bald eagles. One group is made up of eagles that nest along the Hudson and stay here all year. The other group of eagles travels south from Canada and New England to spend the winter here. These birds will fly back north in spring. This movement from one place to another is called **migration**.

Scientists attach lightweight radio **transmitters** to eagles. The transmitters send signals that scientists follow to track the birds' migrations. Bald eagles may travel up to 100 miles in a day. Some migrate more than 1,000 miles between their summer and winter homes. Bald eagles fly south in cold weather to find open water and food. Fish is this eagle's favorite food, but it will also eat ducks and mammals.

Eagles are very large birds. They can be three feet long with wings measuring seven feet tip to tip! An adult bald eagle is easy to identify. It has a white head, white tail, and large yellow beak. Young birds do not have the white head and tail, and are mostly brown in color.

The bald eagle is the **symbol** of the United States. The government has classified this bird as a **threatened** species. This means that the number of eagles is low, and they should not be harmed in any way.



1. What is this article **mostly about**?

- a. migration
- b. the bald eagle
- c. fish
- d. the Hudson River

2. Which definition best describes **migration**?

- a. to stay in one place
- b. to live on the Hudson River
- c. to move from one place to another
- d. to find plenty of food

3. According to the article, how many days would it take an eagle to migrate 1,000 miles between its nesting area in Canada and its winter home on the Hudson?

4. Why do you think bald eagles cannot find their favorite food in northern Canada during the winter?

5. **Challenge question:** Hold your arms straight out to both sides. Have a partner use a tape measure to measure the distance between your fingertips - your "wingspan." Is your wingspan more or less than an eagle's? How much more or less?

This baby eagle was born in a nest overlooking the Hudson River.

