

EMPEROR PENGUIN

FAST FACTS:

Scientific Name: Aptenodytes forsteri

Group Name: Colony

Species: Approximately 17 - 19 penguin species

Size: 60 -90 lbs. and grow to 3 1/2 - 4 1/2 feet tall as an adult

Diet: Carnivore eaters, consists mainly of fish, krill and squid

Life Span: 15 - 25 years

Habitat: Found on the ice and the frigid surrounding waters in Antarctica

Predators: Leopard seals and killer whales

Fun Facts:

They are the largest of all living penguin species and breed annually during the Antarctic winter, June through August. During this time, the temperature can drop as low as -76F with winds as high as 124 mph.

They can dive to a depth of 1,800 feet and hold their breath for up to 22 minutes!

Once a female lays her egg, the male takes charge of the egg by incubating it on his feet to keep it warm. The mother penguin will then take off to sea for nearly four months while the male emperor stays with their egg on ice throughout the dark nights.

