Seagulls

Seagulls are gray and white birds that often live by the coast. There are 50 different types of gulls. Some seagulls live near freshwater lakes and rivers. Most seagulls live to be 10 to 15 years old.

Seagulls eat fish, insects, and earthworms. They eat plants too. They can drink both fresh and sea water!

Seagulls are clever. They steal food from other animals. If they have a shellfish like a crab, they fly up high with it. They drop it to crack the shell. Then they eat the crab.

Most seagulls live in one place in the summer and another in the winter. They move to warm places in the winter. During cold weather, they stand on one leg. They tuck the other foot into their feathers to keep it warm. Then they change and stand on the other leg.

Seagulls mate for life. They build nests by hollowing out a soft spot in the sand. They like nest spots near grass, rocks, or logs for protection.

They usually lay three eggs. Both the mother and father take turns watching the eggs. Once the chicks are born, the mother guards the chicks and the male does most of the feeding.

Seagulls live with other gulls. There are often hundreds or thousands of seagulls living in the same area.