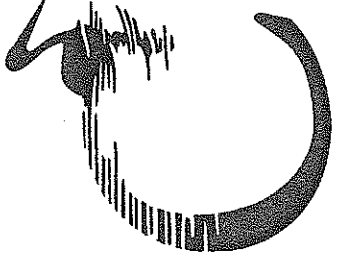


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COORONG





FRIENDS OF THE  
COORONG

*A funny old bird is a pelican,  
His beak can hold more than his belican.*

*Food for a week*

*He can hold in his beak,*

*But I don't know how the helican.\**

\* Limerick by Dixon Lanier Merritt

# Pelican quiz

## How much do you know about pelicans? Find out here.

- Q1. What colour is the ring around a Coorong pelican's eye? a. Pink b. yellow c. grey
- Q2. Do pelicans catch fish through their large bill, nose or ears?
- Q3. How long can a pelican fly for? a. 1 hour b. 24 hours c. 1 month
- Q4. Do Coorong pelicans breed in summer, winter or all year?
- Q5. What is the lifespan of a pelican? a. 5 years b. 25 years c. 50 years
- Q6. In the book "Storm Boy" by Colin Thiele, what were the names of the pelicans?  
a. Happy and Sneezy b. Mrs. Fairweather and Silly Bill c. Mr. Percival, Mr. Proud and Mr. Ponder
- Q7. Do pelicans fish alone or with other pelicans?

**Did you know?** Pelican chicks communicate with their mothers while still in the egg. They can communicate as to whether they are too hot or cold. They also listen to their parents from the egg - so when they emerge, they have no trouble identifying their parents.

The Yaraldikeld (aboriginal clans between Meningie and Tailem Bend) word for pelican is Rorikka. The Tanganikeld (clans between Meningie and Salt Creek) word for pelican is Ngori.

Groups of pelicans are known as pods, scoops or squadron.

The Australian pelican has the largest beak of any kind of bird in the world. They can grow up to 47cm long. They use their beak to catch fish to eat. The bottom part of the beak is like a bag made of stretchy skin. As the pelican scoops up fish in its beak the bag stretches to a huge size to hold all the fish. Pelicans dip their heads under water and open their beaks to let fish and water flow in and then the water drains away leaving the fish behind.



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