

Dogs, cats, horses, cows, chickens . . .
are called domesticated animals.
Many of them are pets.
They're taken care of by people
and often live with them forever.

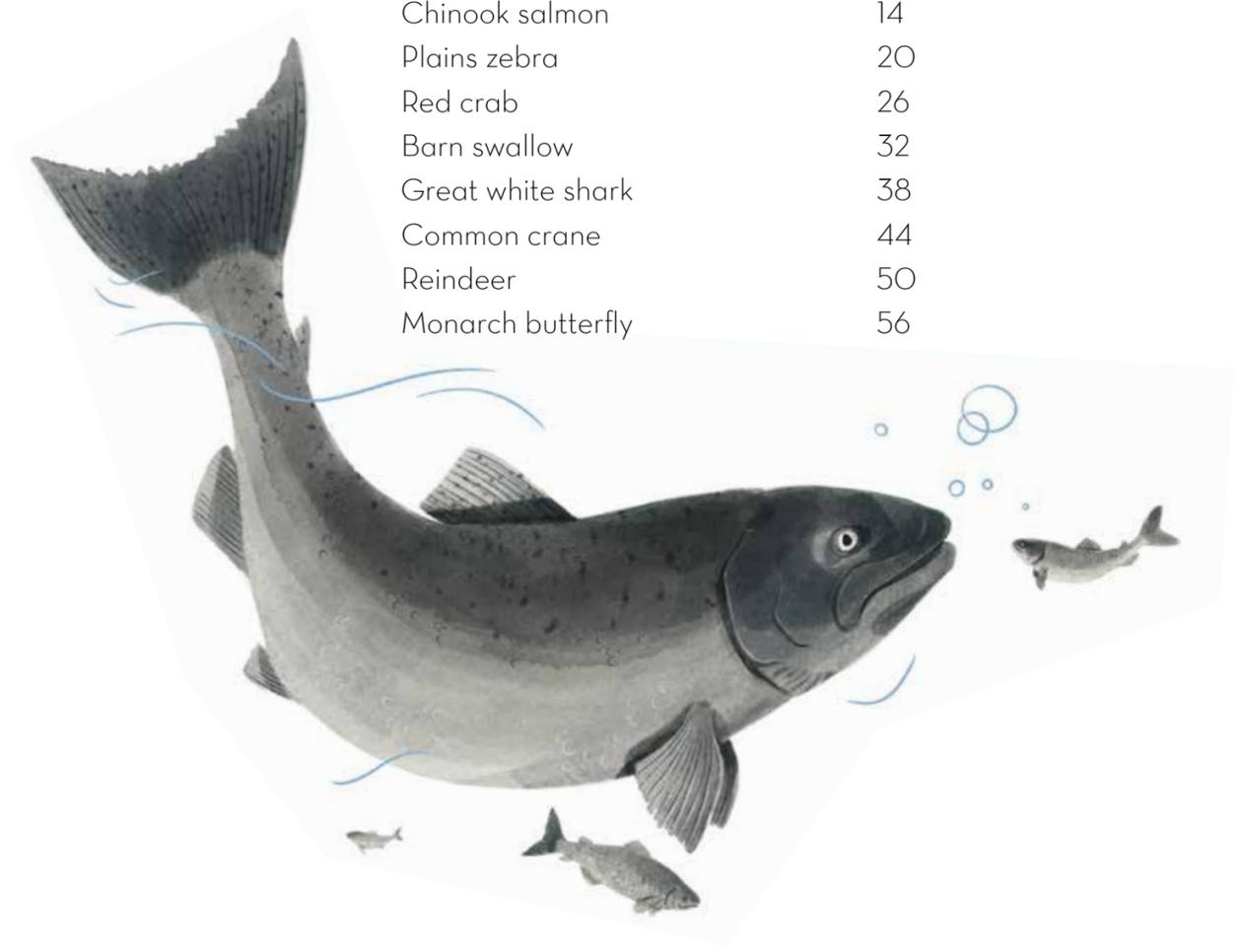
But there are also animals that are wild and travel.
Some live according to the seasons.
When there's no more food to be found,
they travel to another place, often far away.
Their instinct tells them where to go.
They don't need signs, maps, or computers. Isn't that cool?
Other animals take a long journey to lay eggs and reproduce.

In this book, we follow big and small travelers.
Which animal would you like to travel with?



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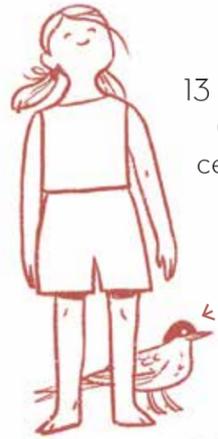
ARCTIC TERN

I'm a lightweight, but I achieve a gold medal as a traveler. I fly chasing the summer, from the top of the globe to the very bottom. This makes me the greatest traveler of all the animals on earth!



Who am I?

Name: Arctic tern
Class: birds



Size:
13 to 15 inches
(33 to 39
centimeters)
long

narrow, pointed wings with a
wingspan of 26 to 30 inches
(66 to 77 centimeters)

Legs:
2 short
red legs

forked tail with
2 long **quills**

can **spread its tail
feathers wide** to
hover in midair

Habitat:

during the summer months along
coasts, lakes, and swamps in the North;
during the winter in the waters
around the South Pole

Food:

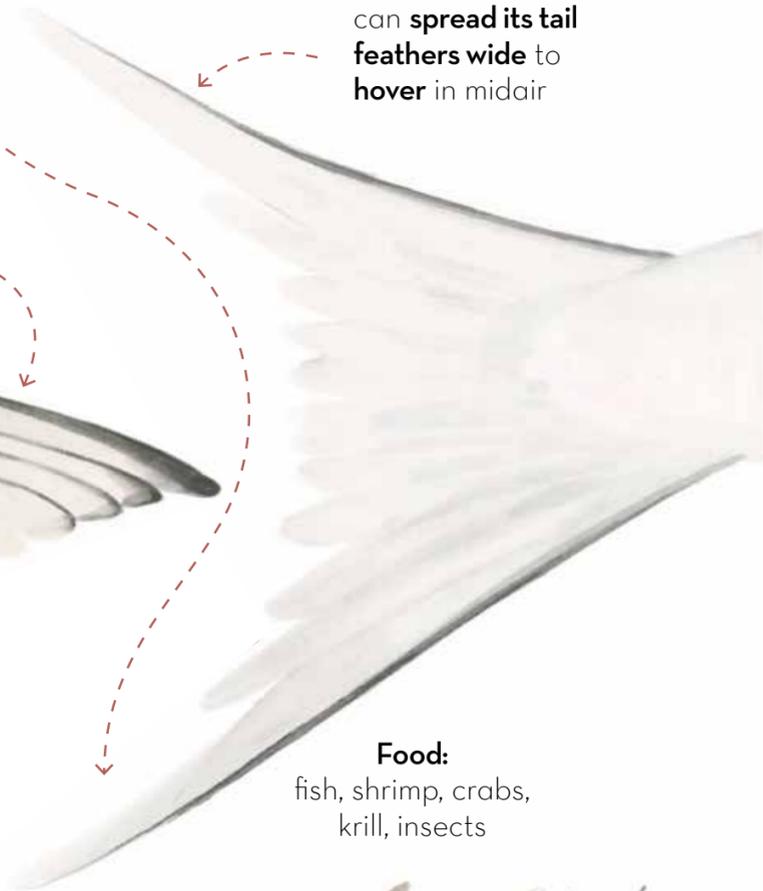
fish, shrimp, crabs,
krill, insects



● breeding ground ● wintering ground



Speed:
I can reach a top speed of 25
miles (40 kilometers) per hour.



Enemies:

They eat the eggs
or the young of
the Arctic tern.



rats



hedgehogs



minks



Arctic foxes



polar bears



For my **nest** I use a **pit** in the ground. Because
enemies can easily find this, we nest **in large
groups** and help each other. I'm always ready
to **defend** a nest. I attack the intruder from
behind and dive for his head. I **keep attacking**
and pecking with my beak **until he disappears**.
This is how we also chase away **people and
even polar bears** together!

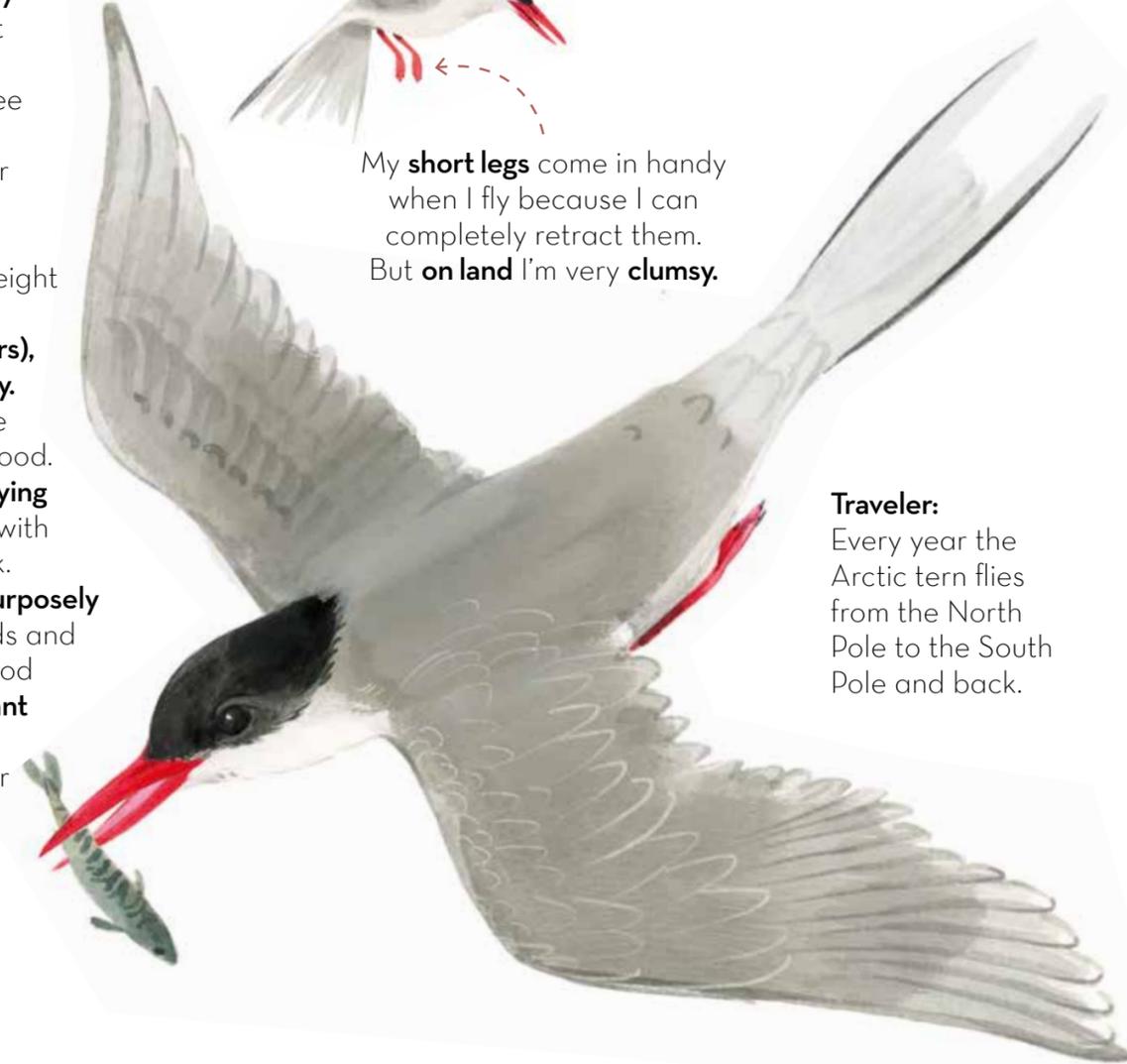
weighs **only 3
to 4 ounces**
(90 to 120 grams)



I'm **finely built** but **strong**, and
I live to be over **30 years** old.

In the air I feel my
best, and I shoot
forward like an
arrow. When I see
something tasty,
I **hover** over it for
a moment and
quickly flap my
wings. From a height
of almost
33 feet (10 meters),
I **drop on my prey**.
Sometimes I dive
underwater for food.
I can **eat while flying**
and even shout with
a fish in my beak.
Sometimes I'll **purposely
startle** other birds and
then steal the food
they drop. If I **want
to impress** a
female, I give her
a fish as a gift.

My **short legs** come in handy
when I fly because I can
completely retract them.
But **on land** I'm very **clumsy**.



Traveler:

Every year the
Arctic tern flies
from the North
Pole to the South
Pole and back.

A detailed illustration of a flock of seabirds, likely terns, flying across a white background. The birds are shown in various stages of flight, with their wings spread wide. They have white bodies, black caps, and bright red beaks. The composition is dynamic, with birds scattered across the frame, some in the foreground and others in the background, creating a sense of movement and depth.

I love summer because there's a lot of food and it stays light outside for a long time. After breeding season, summer is over in the North, and the days get shorter. Time to leave! We gather in groups of around 15 birds. By the end of August, we fly to the South Pole. The seasons are reversed there: when I arrive in November, summer begins. So I fly from summer to summer!

Every year, we fly at least 25,000 miles (40,000 kilometers). Some birds wear radio devices that show they can fly 50,000 miles (80,000 kilometers). That's two trips around the globe!

The journey south takes 3 months, with a few stops in between to eat and rest. The return trip back north is much faster: only 40 days. We leave in March and are back at our nesting place by April or May. Usually, we return to the same place.

Heading south, we fly along the African or South American coast. On the return trip, we're led by a strong tailwind. We fly in an S-shape over the Atlantic Ocean, alternately along Africa and South America.