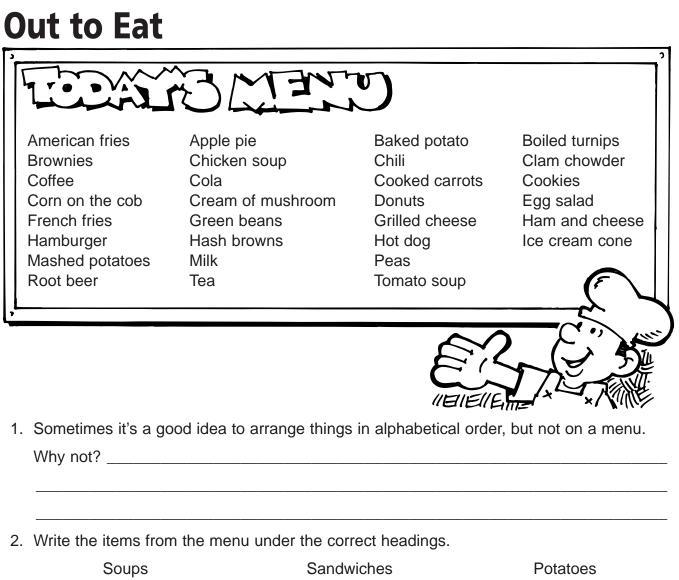


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\* These two pages can be used with activities in this book or with any outside story or book students read.



| Soups      | Sandwiches | Potatoes |
|------------|------------|----------|
|            |            |          |
|            |            |          |
|            |            |          |
|            |            |          |
|            |            |          |
|            |            |          |
| Vegetables | Drinks     | Desserts |
|            |            |          |
|            |            |          |
|            |            |          |
|            |            |          |
|            |            |          |
|            |            |          |

## Why Penguins Can't Fly

Once, long, long ago, when the world was new, Earth was very different. You won't find any mention of this long ago time in any history book. Back then, there were no people to write history, so no one had to study it.

Lush forests of huge ferns and bright flowers covered much of the land. Clear, sparkling streams bubbled through low grasslands. Many kinds of animals lived then, but only one of each kind, as though Mother Nature hadn't finished experimenting and hadn't decided which animals to keep.

Striped Fish swam in clear water. Shark prowled the ocean. Parrot and Macaw sang as they flew through the canopy of tree branches.

Giraffe and Antelope grazed in fields of golden wheat while Dodo bird did its dodo thing along the shore. Kangaroo and Rabbit hopped across the plains. Tiger and Panther slept in the shode of gigantic trace. Semant

the shade of gigantic trees. Serpent slithered through the tall grass. Lizard sunned itself on rocks during the day and slept in a cave at night.

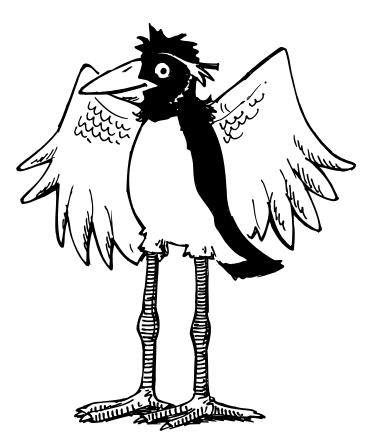
Although he was black and white, like penguins you see today, Penguin was much taller then, with long, sturdy legs. He had large, beautiful wings and could fly far and wide across the Earth.

The animals were very content with their lives, except Penguin. Penguin was curious. He wanted to travel everywhere there was to travel and see everything there was to see. And that presented a problem, because there was only one rule for the animals: do not go to Forbidden Mountain.

All the animals obeyed that rule, even Eagle and Bighorn Sheep.

But Penguin couldn't help being curious. After all, what could it hurt if he only took one little peek at Forbidden Mountain? Who would know?

Penguin flew to Forbidden Mountain on his large, strong wings. He landed at the peak and walked around to satisfy his curiosity.



## Name: \_\_\_

## Why Penguins Can't Fly (cont'd)

Suddenly, a voice as loud and deep as thunder spoke.

"PENGUIN, YOU OF ALL THE ANIMALS CHOSE TO DISOBEY THE LAW. NEVER AGAIN WILL YOU BE ABLE TO FLY TO FORBIDDEN MOUNTAIN."

Immediately Penguin's large beautiful wings turned into short stubby wings. He flapped them and found he could not fly.

"NEVER AGAIN WILL YOU WALK ON FORBIDDEN MOUNTAIN."

Penguin felt himself shrink as his long, sturdy legs turned into short, stubby ones. Instead of taking long strides, he waddled when he walked.

"FOR YOUR CURIOSITY, YOU WILL BE EXILED."

Then Penguin found himself quite alone, in a frozen land near the South Pole. And that's why penguins today have short, stubby wings, waddle when they walk, and live far away near the South Pole.



- Is this a scientific explanation for why penguins can't fly and why they waddle?
  Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Write two statements from Penguin's point of view about why he went to Forbidden Mountain.
- 3. Make up an explanation of why the animals were not allowed to go to Forbidden Mountain.
- 4. For each cause, write an effect
  - A. Penguin was curious.
  - B. Penguin went to Forbidden Mountain.
  - C. There were no people to write history books.