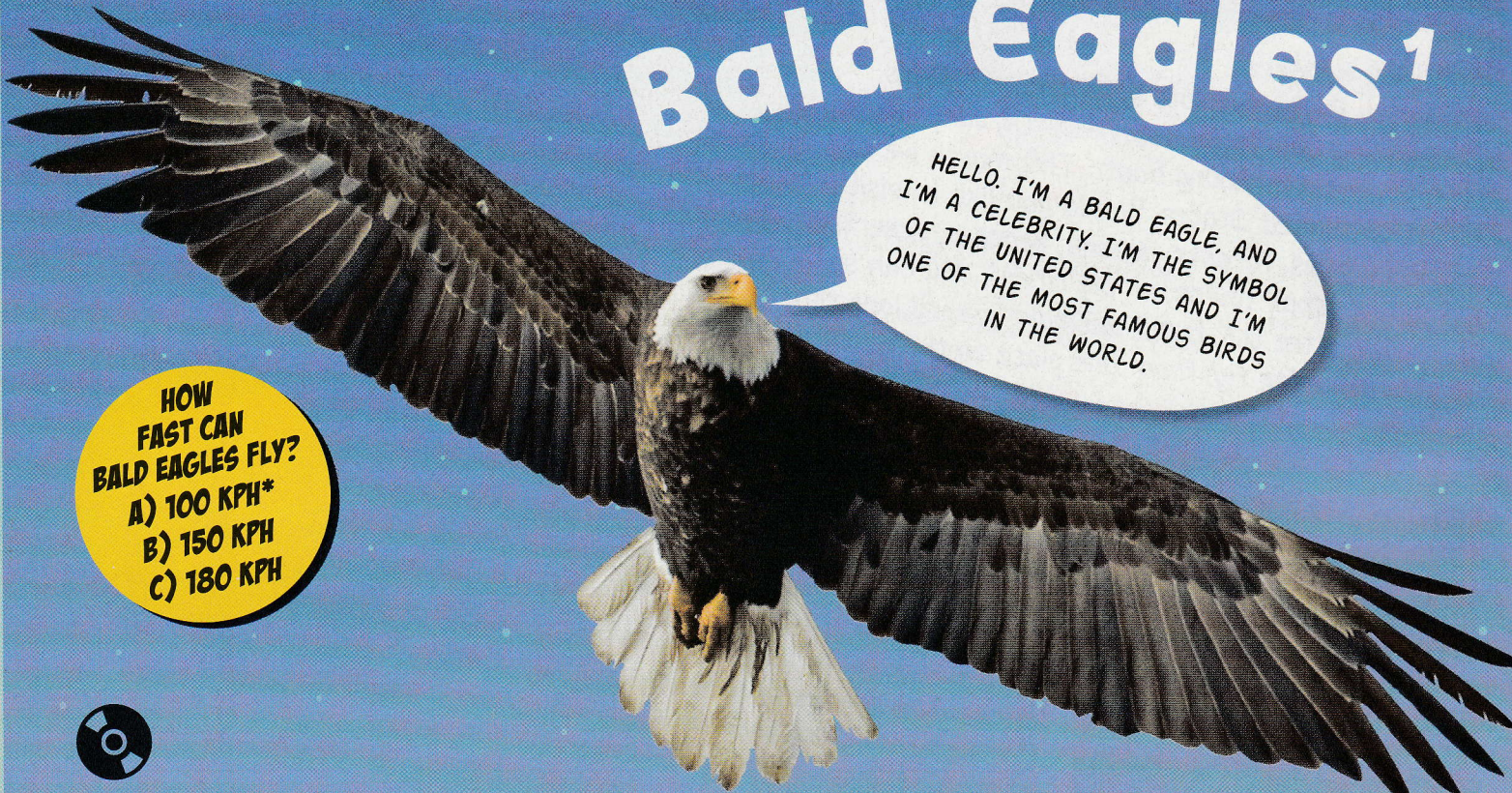


# Bald Eagles<sup>1</sup>



HELLO. I'M A BALD EAGLE, AND I'M A CELEBRITY. I'M THE SYMBOL OF THE UNITED STATES AND I'M ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS BIRDS IN THE WORLD.

HOW FAST CAN BALD EAGLES FLY?

- A) 100 KPH\*
- B) 150 KPH
- C) 180 KPH



I'm not really **bald**<sup>2</sup>. It's easy to see that there are white **feathers**<sup>3</sup> on my head. So why am I called a bald eagle? That's because a long time ago the word bald also meant white. So I'm really a white eagle. But that's wrong, too. I'm not all white. I'm mostly dark brown.

My body is up to one metre long. My **wingspan**<sup>4</sup> is more than two metres. What's your wingspan? The feathers on my body are dark brown and white. My wings are dark brown. I have a yellow **beak**<sup>5</sup> and **talons**<sup>6</sup>. I'm beautiful.

My talons are strong so I can pick up food. I fly over 3,000 metres high in the sky. I have excellent eyes. I can see food over 1.5 kilometres away. When I see my dinner I fly down on it very quickly. I go over 150 kph. Can you fly that fast? My talons pick up my food and I fly to my nest. I like to eat at home.

My nests are really big. Some of them are almost four metres deep. They can

be around two metres **wide**<sup>7</sup>. I like a big house. I live in very high trees or on tops of mountains.

Bald eagles usually have two eggs at one time. Baby eagles are called eaglets. When they are 10–12 weeks old they learn to fly.

I eat small animals. My favourite foods are fish, rabbit and **racoon**<sup>8</sup>. I love meat.

Nothing wants to eat me. I am on top of the **food chain**<sup>9</sup>. I think that's great. Where are you on the food chain?

I live almost everywhere in North America. My favourite place to live is Alaska. I can live up to 35 years. I was **endangered**<sup>10</sup> but now I'm not. It is against the **law**<sup>11</sup> to **kill**<sup>12</sup> me. I like that law.

