

Read and Answer Comprehension Questions

Name: _____

Date: _____

 **Read the passage carefully:**

The Kiwi Bird

The kiwi is a unique and special bird that lives only in New Zealand. Unlike most birds, the kiwi cannot fly. It has tiny wings hidden beneath its shaggy, hair-like feathers. These brown feathers help the kiwi blend into the forest floor where it searches for food at night.

Kiwi are nocturnal, which means they sleep during the day and become active when the sun goes down. They use their long beaks to probe into the soil, hunting for worms, insects, and berries. At the tip of their beak, kiwi have nostrils that help them sniff out their prey – they are the only bird in the world with nostrils at the end of their beak!

Sadly, kiwi are endangered. Introduced predators such as stoats, cats, and dogs hunt kiwi and their eggs. Many New Zealanders are working hard to protect these precious birds through breeding programmes and predator control. The kiwi is New Zealand's national symbol, and it's important that we look after them for future generations.

 **Answer these questions:**

1. Why can't the kiwi fly?

2. What does "nocturnal" mean?

3. What are three things that kiwi eat?

4. What is special about the kiwi's nostrils?

5. Name two predators that hunt kiwi.

6. Why do you think the kiwi's brown feathers are helpful? (Use the text to support your answer.)

7. What are New Zealanders doing to help protect kiwi?

8. Why do you think it's important to protect the kiwi? Give your own opinion.
