

00:00:02:01 - 00:00:05:15

Dense
bones, three eyelids,

00:00:06:03 - 00:00:09:03

a hundred feathers
per square inch.

00:00:09:05 - 00:00:12:05

This isn't your ordinary
bird.

00:00:15:22 - 00:00:17:19

Everything about these
remarkable animals

00:00:17:19 - 00:00:20:23

is adapted for life
in and around the water.

00:00:22:21 - 00:00:24:26

There are 18 species
of penguins

00:00:24:26 - 00:00:26:13

around the world,
and Riverbanks

00:00:26:13 - 00:00:29:00

zoo and garden
is home to two of them.

00:00:29:00 - 00:00:32:00

Southern Rock Hopper
penguins

00:00:32:23 - 00:00:35:23

and king penguins.

00:00:36:06 - 00:00:37:26

Southern rock hoppers
are the smallest

00:00:37:26 - 00:00:38:16

of the crested

00:00:38:16 - 00:00:42:03

penguins, standing
just 18 to 22 inches tall,

00:00:42:21 - 00:00:45:02

and they live up
to their name.

00:00:45:02 - 00:00:46:29

Instead of a typical
waddle,

00:00:46:29 - 00:00:48:01

they hop across

00:00:48:01 - 00:00:51:00

the rocky terrain
with both feet together.

00:00:51:24 - 00:00:53:12

King penguins
are much larger,

00:00:53:12 - 00:00:56:12

standing about
three feet tall

00:00:57:05 - 00:00:58:18

theyâ€™re the second
largest penguins

00:00:58:18 - 00:01:01:06

species in the world,
and are easy to recognize

00:01:01:06 - 00:01:02:27

by the orange
and gold feathers

00:01:02:27 - 00:01:05:26

along their necks.

00:01:07:04 - 00:01:09:26

Penguins are also
highly vocal birds

00:01:09:26 - 00:01:11:12

in the busy colony.

00:01:11:12 - 00:01:14:14

Individual calls help them recognize one another.

00:01:16:23 - 00:01:18:27

But it's in the water
where some of their most

00:01:18:27 - 00:01:21:27

remarkable adaptations
come into play.

00:01:22:10 - 00:01:24:28

Unlike most birds,
penguins have solid,

00:01:24:28 - 00:01:27:28
dense bones that
help them sink and dive.

00:01:28:08 - 00:01:30:28
A layer of fat,
tightly packed feathers,

00:01:30:28 - 00:01:33:04
and tiny pockets
of trapped air help

00:01:33:04 - 00:01:36:04
insulate their bodies
in cold water.

00:01:41:03 - 00:01:42:06
At riverbanks,

00:01:42:06 - 00:01:43:16
The penguin habitat is

00:01:43:16 - 00:01:46:05
carefully maintained
to meet those needs.

00:01:46:05 - 00:01:47:05
The air and water

00:01:47:05 - 00:01:51:07
stay around 45°F,
and nearly 25,000

00:01:51:07 - 00:01:53:03
gallons of fresh water
give the penguins

00:01:53:03 - 00:01:56:03
plenty of room to swim.

00:01:57:21 - 00:01:59:02
Caring for the colony
means

00:01:59:02 - 00:02:01:18
paying attention
to each bird.

00:02:01:18 - 00:02:04:17
Animal care staff prepare
and measure diets.

00:02:04:27 - 00:02:06:03

Monitor how much each

00:02:06:03 - 00:02:09:08

penguin eats and watch
for changes in behavior.

00:02:09:17 - 00:02:11:26

Regular health checks
allow them to track body

00:02:11:26 - 00:02:13:28

condition,
examine their feet,

00:02:13:28 - 00:02:15:09

and look for anything

00:02:15:09 - 00:02:18:07

that might signal
a change in health.

00:02:18:07 - 00:02:20:16

Keepers also get to know
the individual behaviors

00:02:20:16 - 00:02:21:23

of the birds
of their care.

00:02:21:23 - 00:02:24:06

How a penguin stands,
walks, or interacts

00:02:24:06 - 00:02:25:11

with a colony can provide

00:02:25:11 - 00:02:28:11

important clues
about how it's doing.

00:02:28:13 - 00:02:29:01

That close

00:02:29:01 - 00:02:32:01

attention continues
during breeding season.

00:02:32:03 - 00:02:34:03

Southern rock hoppers
build nests

00:02:34:03 - 00:02:36:15

using grasses and stones,
while king

00:02:36:15 - 00:02:38:16
penguins take a
very different approach.

00:02:39:25 - 00:02:41:09
A king
penguin balances its

00:02:41:09 - 00:02:42:20
single egg on its feet,

00:02:42:20 - 00:02:45:20
keeping it warm beneath
a fold of skin.

00:02:48:15 - 00:02:50:08
Keepers
can candle the eggs by

00:02:50:08 - 00:02:53:08
carefully shining a light
through the shell.

00:02:54:14 - 00:02:56:26
This allows them to look
for signs of development

00:02:56:26 - 00:02:59:25
and monitor
whether an egg is viable.

00:03:02:27 - 00:03:04:05
The care happening here

00:03:04:05 - 00:03:07:05
is connected
to a much bigger story.

00:03:07:05 - 00:03:10:09
In the wild, penguins
face serious challenges.

00:03:10:11 - 00:03:12:12
Riverbanks also supports
conservation

00:03:12:12 - 00:03:13:27
beyond the zoo
through its

00:03:13:27 - 00:03:15:24

ongoing conservation
efforts.

00:03:15:24 - 00:03:16:23
Riverbank staff

00:03:16:23 - 00:03:17:24
have worked alongside

00:03:17:24 - 00:03:19:12
the Southern African
Foundation

00:03:19:12 - 00:03:21:12
for the Conservation
of Coastal Birds,

00:03:21:12 - 00:03:23:23
helping rehabilitate
rescued African penguins

00:03:23:23 - 00:03:26:23
and return healthy birds
to the wild.

00:03:31:08 - 00:03:33:15
Protecting penguins
start with understanding

00:03:33:15 - 00:03:36:11
what they need both here
and in the wild.

00:03:36:11 - 00:03:38:01
The more we understand
animals,

00:03:38:01 - 00:03:39:13
the better
we can care for them.

00:03:39:13 - 00:03:41:11
And every discovery
begins

00:03:41:11 - 00:03:43:24
by taking the
time to truly see them.