## GLOSSARY

## WHAT ALL THAT QUACKING IS ABOUT

For use with the **Eyeson Eiders** virtual field trip.

**Adapt (v)** – to change behaviors or physical traits to survive in a specific environment.

**Albumen (n)** – the white of an egg

**Aviculture (n)** – the raising and care of birds (especially wild birds) in captivity.

**Brood (n)** – the offspring of an animal, especially of a bird.

**Brood** (v) – (if a bird) to sit on eggs to hatch them. It also can refer to the time immediately after hatching.

**Calipers (n)** – a tool with two moveable arms used to measure thickness, diameter, length or width.

**Camouflage (n)** – concealment by some means that alters or obscures the appearance; helps an organism to hide from its predators.

**Collaboration (n)** – the action of working with someone to do or create something.

**Conductivity (n)** – the degree to which a specified material conducts electricity.

**Courtship (n)** – the behavior of male birds and other animals aimed at attracting a mate.

**Data (n)** – values of something measured.

**Delta (n)** – the area of land where a river splits into smaller rivers before it flows into an ocean.

**Endangered Species Act (n)** – signed on December 28, 1973, the act provides for the conservation of species that are endangered or threatened throughout all or a significant portion of their range, and the conservation of the ecosystems on which they depend.

**Ecosystem (n)** – a system formed by the interaction of a community of organisms with their environment.

**Experiment (v)** – to do a scientific test in which you perform a series of actions and carefully observe their effects.

**Forage (v)** – to search for and collect food.

**Habitat (n)** – the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism.

**Husbandry (n)** – the care, cultivation, and breeding of crops or animals.





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**Immunoglobulin (antibody) (n)** – a protein that helps the immune system find and get rid of foreign objects like bacteria and viruses

**Incubate (v)** – to keep an egg or organism at an appropriate temperature for it to develop.

**Ingest (v)** – to take something into your body (such as food).

**Inquiry (n)** – an act of asking or searching for information.

**Invertebrate (n)** – an organism that doesn't have a spine or spinal column; insects are one example of invertebrates.

**Iridescent (adj)** – shining with many different colors when seen from different angles.

**Lead shot (n)** – small pellets of lead that are shot from a shotgun; used for hunting birds and small game.

**Life history (n)** – the series of changes a living thing goes through during its lifetime.

**Migration (n)** – seasonal movement from one area to another.

Mimic (v) - to imitate something.

**Molt (v)** – to lose a covering of hair, feathers, etc., and replace it with new growth.

**Monitor** (v) – to keep surveillance over something.

**Petri dish (n)** – a shallow plastic or glass dish often used in labs to culture bacteria or collect samples

**pH (n)** – a number between 0 and 14 that indicates if a substance is an acid or a base.

**Physiology(n)** – the way in which a living organism or bodily part functions.

**Pingo (n)** – a hill of soil-covered ice pushed up in an area of permafrost.

**Plumage(n)** – the feathers that cover the body of a bird.

**Quadrat (n)** – a square or rectangular plot of land marked off for the study of plants and animals.

**Rear (v)** – bring up and care for (offspring) until they are fully grown, especially in a particular manner or place.

**Reintroduction (n)** – the release of a species into an area where it once lived, but where that species does not have a current population

**Reservoir (n)** – an area used to store an extra supply of a resource to be used when needed.

**Salinity (n)** – the saltiness or dissolved salt content of a body of water.





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**Sediment (n)** – matter that settles to the bottom of a liquid.

**Sexual dimorphism (n)** – when the male and female of the same species look distinctly different from one another.

**Slough (n)** – an inlet on a river or a creek in a marsh or tide flat.

**Species (n)** – a group of animals or plants that are similar and can produce young.

**Threatened species (n)** – any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future.

**Threshold (n)** – a level, point, or value above which something is true or will take place.

**Tundra (n)** – a flat or rolling treeless plain that is characteristic of arctic and subarctic regions, subsoil is permanently frozen and dominant vegetation consists of mosses, lichens, herbs, and dwarf shrubs.

**Variable (n)** – an element, feature, or factor that can vary or change.

**Virtual (adj)** – very close to being something without actually being it.

Yolk (n) – the yellow center of an egg; supplies food for a growing bird before hatching



