

Answers to the quiz and explanations

1. Adult male and female birds often have different names.
What is the name of an adult male swan?

- Corn
- Pen – this is the name of the female
- COB**
- Cygnet – this is the name of a swan less than 2 years old

2. How do swans protect themselves?

- By biting
- BY HISSING, PECKING OR FLAPPING THEIR WINGS**
- By kicking
- By running away

3. When do swans usually mate?

- Summer
- Autumn
- Winter
- SPRING – so their young grow up in the summer**

4. How long do swans sit on their eggs?

- ABOUT 35 DAYS**
- About 15 days
- About 20 days
- About 90 days

5. What is the average lifespan of a wild mute swan?

- ABOUT 20 YEARS** – captive swans have been known to live for 35 and even 50 years old
- About 50 years
- About 40 years

6. If feeding swans, where should you throw the food?

- Anywhere near them
- On the riverbank
- In the road
- IN THE WATER** – always feed swans in water so you don't encourage them onto land

7. Do swans need to live on water all of the time?

- Yes
- NO** – swans can live in a field with short grass as long as there is a supply of water to drink

8. What do swans like to eat?

- River weed
- Frozen peas & corn
- Lettuce/greens
- ALL OF THE ABOVE** – they love frozen peas and corn, especially in the summer!

9. What colour is an adult mute swan?

- Blue
- Grey
- WHITE**
- Spotted

10. Are all swans owned by The Queen?

- Yes
- NO – There are 3 other lawful owners: Abbotsbury Swannery in Dorset and the Worshipful Companies of Vintners and Dyers. The Crown owns all un-ringed cygnets and swans on the Upper Reaches of the River Thames and those that are ringed by the Queen’s Swan Marker during Swan Upping.**

You can find out more about Swan Upping by visiting this link:

<https://www.swanlifeline.uk/swan-upping>