

10 things you should know about...

Chinstrap Penguins

Scientific name: Genus species: "Pygoscelis antarctica"

- 1** Chinstrap penguins live in subantarctic and antarctic waters.
- 2** Chinstraps, gentoo, and Adelie penguins are closely related.
- 3** There are millions of chinstrap penguins. It is the 2nd most abundant penguin species in the antarctic and subantarctic.
- 4** Chinstrap penguins are 18 to 24 in (46-61 cm) tall and weigh about 9 lb (4 kg).
- 5** Chinstraps generally dive less than 164 ft (50 m), 1.8 to 12 mi (3 to 20 km) from shore. Though most dives are about 82 ft (25 m), they can dive as deep as 410 ft (125 m).
- 6** Like other antarctic penguins, chinstrap penguins eat krill, fish, and squid.
- 7** Some chinstrap penguins nest on steep slopes. To climb up, they use their feet and flippers. They are also excellent jumpers.
- 8** The chicks fledge, when the downy feathers are replaced with waterproofed feathers, when they are about 7 or 8 weeks old.
- 9** Like the gentoo, both parents incubate the eggs and care for the chicks.
- 10** Eggs and chicks are eaten by skuas, kelp gulls, sheath bills, and giant petrels. The main predator of adults is the leopard seal.



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