

READ THE PASSAGE Find out how the two kinds of ducks are alike and different.

Dippers and Divers

Most ducks are either dippers or divers. Dippers float in shallow water. Many live near ponds. Some people call them “puddle ducks.” Dippers stick their heads underwater. Their tails point high in the air. They are looking for food. Dippers eat a lot of plants. They find them on the bottom of the pond. They eat bugs and small fish, too. Dippers can walk and run well on land.

You’ll see divers on deep lakes and rivers or on the sea. They can dive deep for their food. They come back up with clams, crabs, and fish. Divers have shorter legs and bigger feet than dippers. They can swim very fast, but they cannot walk very well.

A dipper can leap up out of the water to begin flying. Divers cannot leap. They are too heavy. They flap their wings and run along on the water. Then they take off like a plane.

SKILL PRACTICE Read the question. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

- Dippers and divers are both _____.
 - ducks
 - ponds
 - planes
 - bugs
- One way dippers and divers are different is that dippers _____.
 - have bigger feet
 - have shorter legs
 - stay in shallow water
 - eat clams from the sea
- Dippers and divers both _____.
 - walk well on land
 - find food in water
 - take off like planes
 - live in shallow ponds
- What can a dipper do that a diver cannot?
 - swim very fast
 - eat a crab
 - dive deep for food
 - walk well on land

STRATEGY PRACTICE What is a question you had that was answered by the passage?
