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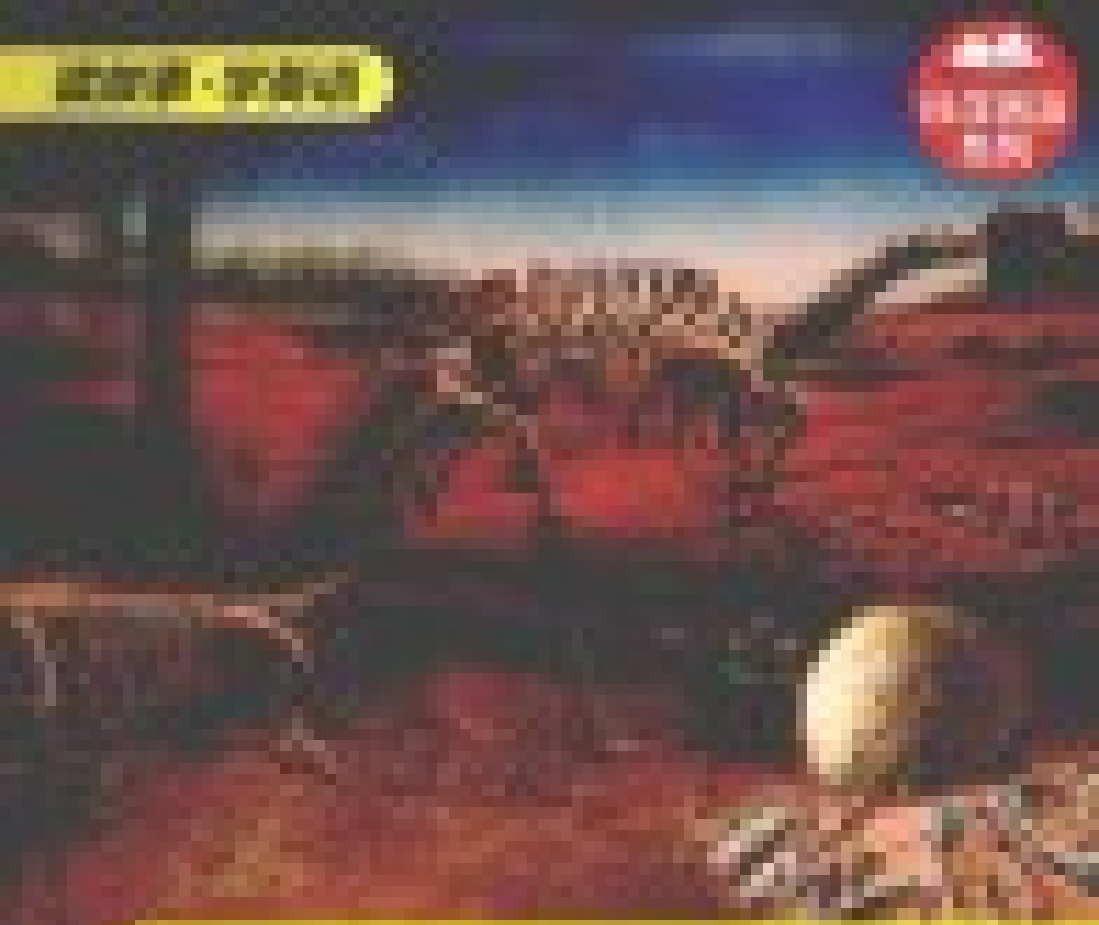

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

神奇自然馆. 第5辑, 恐龙蛋的发现 : 英汉对照 / 美国麦格劳－希尔教育集团主编 ; 张广林, 王颖鹏, 吴鹏译. -- 长春 : 吉林出版集团有限责任公司, 2013.1

(麦格希中英双语阅读文库)

ISBN 978-7-5534-1185-9

Ⅰ. ①神… Ⅱ. ①美… ②张… ③王… ④吴… Ⅲ. ①英语－汉语－对照读物 Ⅳ. ①H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2012)第 291201 号

Jamestown

Timed Readings Plus in Science Book 5

0-07-827374-9

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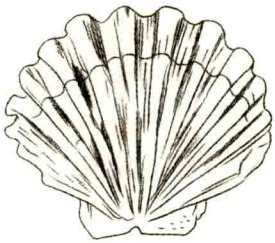
神奇自然馆 第5辑 恐龙蛋的发现

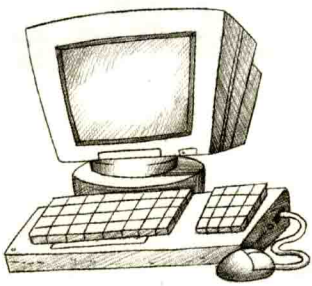
主　　编: 麦格劳－希尔教育集团
翻　　译: 张广林　王颖鹏　吴　鹏
插　　画: 齐　航　李延霞
责任编辑: 沈丽娟　尹春月
封面设计: 李立嗣
开　　本: 660mm×960mm　1/16
字　　数: 225 千字
印　　张: 10
版　　次: 2013 年 6 月第 1 版
印　　次: 2013 年 6 月第 1 次印刷

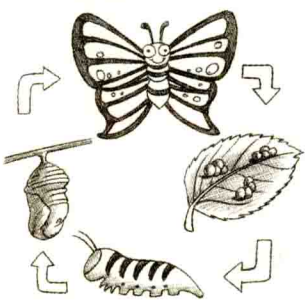
出　　版: 吉林出版集团有限责任公司
发　　行: 吉林出版集团外语教育有限公司
地　　址: 长春市泰来街 1825 号
　　邮编:130011
电　　话: 总编办:0431-86012683
　　发行部:0431-86012675　0431-86012826(Fax)
网　　址: www.360hours.com
印　　刷: 吉林省金昇印务有限公司

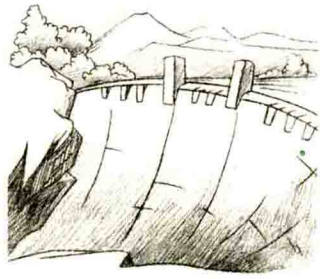
ISBN 978-7-5534-1185-9　　**定价:** 19.80 元

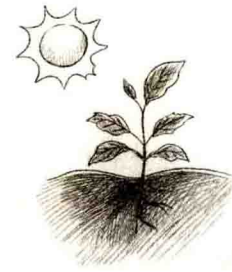
Contents







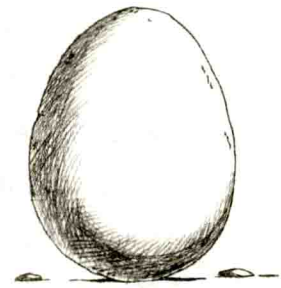




1

Discovering Dinosaur Eggs

Until the 20th century, scientists did not know that dinosaurs laid eggs. For thousands of years people had been finding fossilized eggs and ***eggshells***, but they did not know what these objects were. A find at one site in Mongolia suggests that people may even have worn these fossils as ***jewelry*** thousands of years ago.



恐龙蛋的发现

20世纪以前，科学家们不知道恐龙是卵生动物。在过去的几千年里，人们已经发现了石化的蛋和蛋壳，但他们并不知道这些东西到底是什么。人们在蒙古的一个遗址上发现，几千年前的人类可能将这些化石当做珠宝一样佩戴。

eggshell *n.* 蛋壳

jewelry *n.* 珠宝

In the 1850s, Jean-Jacques Pouech, a French *priest* who liked to look for fossils, found *fragments* that he *described* as pieces of a huge eggshell. The egg would have been about the size of a basketball. At the time, neither Pouech nor anyone else knew what kind of creature the eggshell could have contained. Some people thought that a giant bird had laid the eggs. More than 100 years later, scientists proved that the fossils came from dinosaur eggs.

It was not until 1923 that the discovery of the first complete fossils of dinosaur eggs was made. A group of explorers, led by scientist Roy Chapman Andrews, found two nests containing fossilized eggs in the Gobi Desert in Mongolia. The first nest held five small, rounded eggs, and the second nest held five longer, larger eggs. Both the rounded eggs and the *elongated* eggs were shown to be dinosaur eggs. With their discovery, Andrews and his group were able to prove that dinosaurs had in fact laid eggs.

在19世纪50年代，让·雅克·柏爱奇——一个喜好寻找化石的法国神父，发现了许多，据他描述，像是巨大蛋壳的碎片，这种蛋大约有篮球大小。当时，柏爱奇和其他人一样都不知道蛋壳里是什么东西。一些人认为这是一种巨鸟的蛋。一百多年以后，科学家们证实了这些化石来自恐龙蛋。

直到1923年，人们才第一次发现了完整的恐龙蛋化石。科学家罗伊·查普曼·安德鲁斯带领的一群探险家，在蒙古的戈壁滩中发现了两个有蛋化石的巢穴，第一个巢穴中的5个蛋又小又圆，第二个巢穴中的五个蛋又长又大，所有这些蛋都被证明是恐龙蛋。通过这一发现，安德鲁斯和他的小组能够证明恐龙确实是卵生动物。

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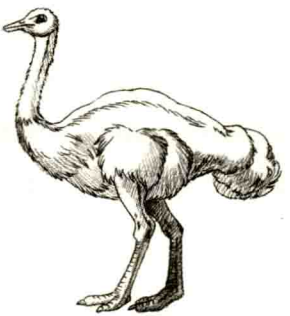
priest *n.* 神父
describe *v.* 描述
fragment *n.* 碎片
elongate *v.* 拉长；伸长

2

Flightless Birds

Most people think of birds as feathered animals that fly. Scientists, however, do not define birds as animals that fly, because some birds do not. Of the 10,000 or so *species* of birds, 46 cannot fly. Flight plays a key role in *survival* for most birds. It allows them to find food over a wide area and to get away from



不会飞的鸟

大多数人认为，鸟是一种长着羽毛会飞的动物。然而，科学家们并不把鸟定义成会飞的动物，因为事实上有些鸟并不会飞。大约10 000种鸟中有46种不会飞。对于大部分鸟来说，飞行对于它们的生存至关重要。飞行能使它们在广阔的区域觅食，并远离肉食动物的捕杀。那些不会飞的鸟，大概是因为祖先没有经常受到天敌威胁，或者并不需要

species *n.* 物种　　survival *n.* 生存

predators. Ancestors of flightless birds may have lost their ability to fly because they had no regular predators or did not need to fly to find food. Rather than fly, some of these birds developed other traits to catch food and avoid enemies. Two examples of flightless birds are *penguins* and *ostriches*.

Penguins are sea birds with *flipperlike* wings, dense feathers, and thick bodies. Unlike birds that fly, penguins do not have wide wings, large feathers, or hollow bones. In order to catch the fish they feed on, penguins use their powerful wings to swim swiftly. When they swim, they look as if they are flying through the water. Their torpedo-shaped bodies enable them to dive deep underwater, and their dense feathers protect them from the cold. Their swimming skill also

---

远行觅食，从而丧失了飞行的能力。有些鸟逐渐进化，掌握了一些不依赖飞行便可以捕食的技能和防御本领。企鹅和鸵鸟就是两个例子，它们虽然是鸟，但不会飞行。

企鹅是一种长有蹼状双翼、羽毛稠密、身材臃肿的海鸟。这一点与那些会飞的鸟大不一样，它没有宽阔的翅膀、巨大的羽毛，以及中空的骨骼。企鹅的双翼强劲有力，这使它们在水中游速极快，能够捕食到赖以生存的鱼类，它们穿行于水中犹如在水中飞行。鱼雷状的体形使它们可以深潜至水底，浓密的羽毛保护它们免受冰冷海水的伤害。游泳的本领还可以

---

predator *n.* 捕食性动物
ostrich *n.* 鸵鸟
penguin *n.* 企鹅
flipperlike *adj.* 蹼状的

helps them to escape from predators.

Ostriches, like *emus* and *rheas*, are members of a group of birds called *ratites*. These birds are known for their long legs, long necks, and large size. To protect themselves, ratites stay in groups and use their excellent vision and hearing to notice enemies. When danger *approaches*, these birds can run at speeds of more than 65 kilometers per hour (40 miles per hour) to escape. In addition to using their strong legs to run with, some ratites can deliver powerful kicks. The strong, heavy bones that enable these birds to run well also make them too heavy to fly.

Not all flightless birds have been successful at protecting themselves. Flightless birds on some islands had no enemies until

帮助它们逃脱天敌的追捕。

鸵鸟和鸸鹋、美洲鸵一样属于平胸目，它们因腿、颈细长，体型庞大而闻名。为了防御，平胸目鸟类群居生活，并借助敏锐的视力和听觉来察觉敌人。当危险来临时，这些鸟类会以每小时65公里（每小时40千米）以上的速度奔跑逃脱。它们强壮的双腿除了可以奔跑之外，有些平胸目的鸟类还可以用它们来踢踹。这些鸟类拥有坚硬沉重的骨骼，这虽然使它们擅长奔跑，但又因体重过重而无法飞行。

并非所有不会飞行的鸟都在自我保护方面取得了成功。某些岛屿上

emus *n.* 鸸鹋
ratite *n.* 平胸目鸟
rhea *n.* 美洲鸵
approach *v.* 接近

people arrived. These birds were hunted and easily caught by people and the animals brought by people. Human land development has destroyed the ***habitats*** of some birds. A number of flightless birds—such as the ***dodo*** and the great ***auk***—became ***extinct*** because they were unable to adapt to new conditions and new enemies. Today, the kakapo parrot and the takahe of New Zealand are near extinction as well. After millions of years of survival, these flightless birds have had their populations reduced to a few dozen.

不会飞行的鸟类在人类发现它们以前没有遇到过天敌，这些鸟很容易被人类以及人类带来的动物捕获。人类到达岛屿后的陆地活动破坏了一些鸟类的栖息环境，许多不会飞的鸟，例如渡渡鸟和大海雀，就是因为不能适应新的环境和到来的人类而灭绝。如今，鸮鹦鹉和新西兰断翅水鸡也濒临灭绝，在存活了数百万年之后，这些不会飞的鸟仅剩几十只了。

habitat *n.* 栖息地
auk *n.* 大海雀
dodo *n.* 渡渡鸟
extinct *adj.* 绝种的

3

Wildlife Photography

Anyone who has tried to get close to an animal in the wild knows how difficult it can be. As a result, much of our knowledge of wildlife comes from pictures taken by skilled *professionals* that know how to approach these animals. These professionals are wildlife *photographers*.

Wildlife photographers rely not only on

野生动物摄影

任何人都知道，想接近野生动物有多么困难。因此，我们大多数关于野生动物的知识都来自于那些专业人员所拍摄的图片，因为他们知道如何接近这些动物。这些专业人员就是野生动物摄影师。

野生动物摄影师不仅依靠他们娴熟的技术，同时也依赖他们所掌握的

professional *n.* 专业人员　　photographer *n.* 摄影师

their photographic skills but also on their knowledge of wildlife. To get good pictures, they sometimes have to endure long waits, ***harsh*** weather, and even the threat of animal attacks.

Once they have become familiar with a location, photographers can begin to get close enough to animals to take pictures. Some photographers hide in hutlike structures called ***blinds***. This technique works well with animals such as birds that depend mainly on their vision to sense danger. In contrast, blinds do not work well for taking pictures of animals with a ***keen*** sense of smell. Photographers may approach these animals on foot, staying ***downwind*** and avoiding sudden movements. Food or noises, such as birdcalls, may also be

关于野生动物的知识。为了得到一张效果不错的图片，他们有时不得不忍受漫长的等待，经历恶劣的天气，甚至要面对遭受其他动物攻击的危险。

一旦他们熟悉了一个地点，摄影师们就会尽可能地接近这些动物以获得最佳图片。有些摄影师会躲在木屋结构的百叶帘后，这种方法在拍摄一些诸如鸟类的动物时，十分奏效，因为鸟类主要依赖视觉感知危险。然而，这样的掩蔽物在拍摄那些具有敏锐嗅觉的动物时，效果并不理想，摄影师们往往需要徒步接近这些动物，在下风方向并且尽可能避免身体的突

harsh *adj.* 恶劣的
keen *adj.* 敏锐的
blinds *n.* 百叶帘
downwind *adj.* 顺风的；下风的

used to lure wildlife into view.

For difficult subjects, a photographer may even leave a camera in the wild with a trip line. Animals that touch the line ***trigger*** the camera to ***snap*** pictures of them. Each of these methods requires great patience and knowledge, but the reward can be a rare and fascinating glimpse of nature.

然移动。食物或者声音，例如鸟叫声，也可以把野生动物吸引到镜头范围内。

对于一些较难的拍摄对象，摄影师甚至会把有脱扣线的照相机放在野外。一旦动物们触碰到了这条线，照相机就会被激活并拍下它们的照片。任何一种方法都需要有极大的耐心和丰富的知识，这样做的回报便是记录下了大自然珍贵而又奇妙的瞬间。

trigger *v.* 扣扳机　　**snap** *v.* 拍照