

CANADA GOOSE

Did You Know?

Canada geese nest in the same region their parents did, often in the same nest every year! How's that for tradition!

APPEARANCE

Canada Geese are known for their black head, white cheeks, long, black neck and webbed feet. The wingspans of these birds can be very large, and might even reach up to two meters! The under parts for each subspecies can vary in colour, ranging from light pearl-grey to chestnut and blackish brown.



FOOD

In the spring and summer months, the geese eat leaves, flowers, stems, roots, seeds and berries. They will often eat for 12 hours or more a day to consume a sufficient amount of nutrients! They feed even more intensively right before they fly north after the winter, storing energy for an active breeding period and preparing for a lack of food in the spring.



HABITS

Canada geese normally migrate to southern agricultural areas for the winter. To do so, they fly in the distinct "V" pattern, where one goose is the leader and its flock follows behind in a v-shape. This helps the geese

save energy when they migrate, benefit from the air currents passing the leader, permitting them to fly longer distances. The v-shape also allows for an easier coordination of the flock's movements, such as a change in flight speed or direction. The formation lets these changes be communicated quickly and efficiently to all geese in the flock.