IF PENGUINS LIVED IN LAS VEGAS

By: Jo Anne Kock
Vicki Agao

Illustrated by: Lisa Pattieshaw

Growing Up in Las Vegas in 1905
IF PENGUINS LIVED IN LAS VEGAS

By: Jo Anne Kock, Ph.D., Area Extension Specialist
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Illustrated by: Lisa Pattieshaw

Dedicated to: Lorena Garcia Flores, Eilene Eslinger,
Clayton Reed and Shelby Reed

“In Pursuit of the Penguin”

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Previous Books by Author and Illustrator:
Growing Up in Las Vegas - CM-05-03
Growing Up in Las Vegas Activity Book - CM-05-04
A Rose Blooms in the Desert - SP-08-04
A Rose Blooms in the Desert Activity Book - CM-08-04
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Introduction

Building upon the last two children’s books about Ellie growing up and raising roses in Las Vegas, IF PENGUINS LIVED IN LAS VEGAS is Ellie’s whimsical journey of the land of Antarctica and the penguins found there. By having someone read IF PENGUINS LIVED IN LAS VEGAS to them or reading the books themselves, children will enjoy a unique educational experience. The activities in the accompanying activity book will help children ages 4 to 10 learn new vocabulary and new ways to extend the information in the book, as well as provide many hours of educational entertainment.

Reading aloud to young children results in bonding and positive parent/child interaction. When reading to young children, remember to:

♦ Get down to the child’s level
♦ Read slowly
♦ Read with expression
♦ Point out the author and illustrator
♦ Read and talk about the dedication page
♦ Show pictures after reading each page
♦ Point out items in the artwork
♦ Explain vocabulary
♦ Smile and both you and the child will enjoy the book

Help your children find “Polly Penguin” in a pink hat and scarf. She appears in the illustrations.
Hi, remember me? My name is Luella Mae Moore. Everyone calls me Ellie. I am five years old. I've told you about living in Las Vegas when it became a town and about growing roses in the desert. Now, let me tell you about penguins in the desert.
Meet my brother, Billy. He is seven years old. He wants to be a cowboy when he grows up.
On my first day at school, the world map fell off the wall. All you could see on the map was Antarctica.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{cat} \\
\text{dog}
\end{array}
\]
I have never heard of Antarctica. I wonder who lives there. Do they have wild animals there?
That looks like snow and ice in Antarctica. I wonder if anything can live in such a cold place. Antarctica looks like it is at the bottom of the world.
Other animals found in Antarctica are:

- Arctic Tern
- Double-crested Cormorant
- Squid
- Krill
- Starfish
- Blue Whale
- Porpoise
My teacher, Mrs. McGuire, tells me that penguins live in Antarctica. They love ice and snow. Billy thinks penguins are “cool.”
I wonder if penguins can live in Las Vegas. I’m going to invite a penguin to visit me.
A penguin named Polly answered my letter. I didn’t know she was going to bring all her relatives.
They all were surprised to march and swim from ice and snow to a hot, sandy desert.
Penguins love to play. They climb up the ice and . . .
slide down the sand on their bellies.
Emperor
The largest penguin. They are about 48 inches in height. They can weigh up to 100 pounds. They have lots of yellow feathers.

Adélie
They are commonly found along the entire Antarctica coast. They are about 30 inches tall and can weigh up to 12 pounds.

Macaroni
They have yellow and black plumes on their head that look like macaroni. They are about 25 inches in height and weigh about 11 pounds.
They have a black band under their heads which make them look like they are wearing a helmet. They are about 27 inches tall and weigh up to 13 pounds.
The father Emperor’s feathers keep an egg warm in his “brood” pouch. The egg cannot stay on the ice because it might freeze.
When the egg is hatched, the fluffy baby penguin stays on his parents’ feet to keep warm.
The Adélie penguins are very social and they like to live in groups. They build rock nests where they lay just one egg. The parents take turns keeping the egg warm.
Both parents take care of the baby. In March, the parents and baby return to the sea.
In Antarctica, penguins eat krill, a small shrimp found in icy ocean waters.
I wonder if Polly Penguin can find krill at Dad’s mercantile.
The cowboys in Nevada often bring their own food in a chuck wagon when they travel. Billy really wants to be a cowboy.
"Got krill?"
When it’s cold in Antarctica, the penguins huddle together to stay warm.
When the weather is hot in Las Vegas, people and penguins look for a cool place to swim.
The penguins think the Wilson Cliffs just west of Las Vegas and Red Rock look like brown desert icebergs. Even the rainbows look like the ones in Antarctica.
There are often rainbows over the blue icebergs in Antarctica.
Polly Penguin is fully acclimated to Las Vegas.

Polly even knows where to go to keep cool.
She relaxes under a tree at the Las Vegas Ranch.
Soon the penguins decide they had better find a cooler place.
So they return to the icebergs in Antarctica.

The penguins thank us for the invitation to Las Vegas.