

The fascinating way flamingos eat



- 1 Ever wondered how flamingos eat with their curved beaks? The San Diego Zoo has released a new video educating the public on flamingo feeding habits. The video was taken during the birds' mealtime by an underwater camera placed inside the zoo's flamingo feeding pool. It shows just how efficient flamingos are at "vacuum-cleaning" their food.
- 2 In the video, the birds are seen dipping their hooked beaks to skim the bottom. The zoo explains that flamingos naturally eat underwater and with their beaks almost upside down. They suck in the surrounding water, which is then passed through salty plates (called lamellae) that filter the water for tasty treats. Shrimp, brine flies, algae, and other small marine life are trapped in the flamingo's mouth to be consumed. Water, mud, and debris are expelled out the sides of the beak. This effective feeding filtration system is powered by the motion of the flamingo's tongue.
- 3 The zoo's feeding pool, however, is not filled with actual sea creatures. Instead, zookeepers use a special pellet diet full of nutrients. When scattered in water, the flamingos can eat as if living in the wild. The pigments that give shrimps their colour must be put in these pellets – eating them gives the flamingos their pink feathers.

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- 1p 3 Met welk voorwerp wordt de manier waarop flamingo's voedsel zoeken vergeleken? (alinea 1)



- 1p 4 Welke bewering over flamingo's is juist volgens alinea 2?
- A Ze gebruiken hun poten om de bodem los te maken.
 - B Ze houden hun snavel bijna ondersteboven bij het eten.
 - C Ze vissen met hun tong voedsel uit het water.

- 1p 5 Wat krijgen flamingo's in de dierentuin te eten? (alinea 3)
- A schelpdieren
 - B voerkorrels
 - C waterplanten

- 1p 6 Waarom krijgen flamingo's pigment in hun voer volgens alinea 3?
- A om het eten beter te kunnen zien
 - B om te zorgen dat hun veren kleur krijgen
 - C om voldoende voedingsstoffen binnen te krijgen