

## Study Questions

“Standing Tall” by Christine Petersen. Published in the March–April 2021 [Minnesota Conservation Volunteer](#), or visit [www.mndnr.gov/young\\_naturalists/sandhill](http://www.mndnr.gov/young_naturalists/sandhill).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name two things that make sandhill cranes hard to study.
2. Which of these are places sandhill cranes nest? Choose all that apply.
  - a. farm fields
  - b. wet meadows
  - c. upland forests
  - d. wetlands
  - e. grasslands
3. Name two ways in which whooping cranes and sandhill cranes are similar.
4. Name two ways in which whooping cranes and sandhill cranes are different.
5. Name four things that sandhill cranes eat.
6. Where do Minnesota sandhills spend their winter?
  - a. the Texas coast
  - b. the southeastern U.S.
  - c. Minnesota
  - d. a & b
  - e. b & c
7. Why is Nebraska’s Platte River important for sandhill cranes?
8. What did the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 do?
9. What is a young sandhill crane called?
  - a. chick
  - b. colt
  - c. sandling
  - d. pipsqueak
10. How many sandhill cranes live in Minnesota?
11. True or false: Sandhill cranes are endangered.
12. How is the range of sandhill cranes changing in Minnesota?

Name two things that eat sandhill cranes.

CHALLENGE: What percent of the world's crane species are found in Minnesota?

### Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments Practice Items

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1. Why was Wolfson looking for sandhill cranes?
2. What are four traits you can use to tell sandhill cranes and great blue herons apart?
3. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ help sandhills save energy while they're migrating
4. Which of these helped drive sandhill cranes close to extinction?
  - a. People hunted them for food.
  - b. People used their feathers to decorate hats.
  - c. People changed wetlands and prairies to farmland.
  - d. All of the above.
5. How do sandhill cranes cause trouble for farmers? How do the cranes help farmers?
6. How would a sandhill crane's voice be different if it had a shorter trachea?
  - a. It would be higher pitched
  - b. It would be louder
  - c. It would be quieter
  - d. it wouldn't be different

### Vocabulary

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confrontations – face-to-face meetings, often with potential for conflict

down – soft, fluffy feathers

grubs – insect larvae

lunging – moving rapidly

lush – rich, abundant

territory – the space an animal occupies and defends

waders – tall waterproof boots

When animals have **confrontations**, they have

**Face-to-face meetings, often with potential for conflict**, are called

**Soft, fluffy feathers** are known as  
**Down** is a name for

When a bird eats **grubs**, it's eating  
**Insect larvae** are also called

An animal that's **lunging** is  
An animal that's **moving quickly** is

If a park is **lush** with flowers, that means the flowers are  
You might call a park that's **rich and abundant** with flowers

**The space an animal occupies and defends** is its  
**An animal's territory** is

**Tall, waterproof boots** are also known as  
A person dressed in **waders** is wearing