

- Nicknamed “**sea parrots**” – and sometimes “**clowns of the sea**”!
- Puffins spend most of their lives out at sea, resting on the waves when not swimming.
- A puffin’s beak (or bill) changes colour during the year. In winter, the beak has a dull grey colour, but in spring it blooms with an outrageous orange!
- Puffins can flap their wings up to **400 times a minute** and speeding through the air at up to **88km an hour**!
- In spring and summer, thousands of puffins gather in colonies on the coasts and islands of the **North Atlantic Ocean** to breed.
- When starting a puffin family, they dig a burrow using their sharp claws and beak, usually in a grassy bank or rocky crevice. Both parents take it in turn to incubate the egg for the next 36-45 days before the baby “**puffling**” hatches!
- In the wild, these winged wonders live for around 20 years.

