
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

News Review

Stranded penguin mystery solved

The story

Scientists think they may have discovered why thousands of penguins who get stranded on South American coasts are predominantly female.

When researchers tracked a small number of Magellanic Penguins from breeding grounds in Patagonia, they found that the females generally travelled further afield in search of food, with many reaching as far north as Uruguay.

Vocabulary

venture

travel somewhere dangerous or unknown

- The penguins left the land to venture into the sea in search of food.
- We plan to increase annual profits by venturing into the Asian market.

exhaust

make someone or something very tired

- Long car journeys can exhaust children.
- Can we stop walking for a while? I'm exhausted!

washing up

being moved somewhere by water

- There's always rubbish washing up on this beach! We need to clean it!
- The sailors were rescued after their boat washed up at a nearby port.

Language challenge

Penguins often travel together to avoid becoming

- a) strangled
- b) stranded
- c) strapped

Answer

c) stranded