

# EMU

*It's a flightless bird which is the worlds 3rd largest bird behind the Ostrich and Cassowary.*



*Ostrich*



*cassowary*



*emu*

*Emus are quick runners (+50 kph). They are generally nomadic, with some emus roaming over hundreds of kilometers.*

*They are covered with long, thick feathers that are dark brown to grey-brown.*

*Their heads have shorter feathers, a pointy beak, large bright looking eyes and often a blue throat.*

*Emus have very long legs with 3 toed feet. They stand 1,5 to 2 metres tall and weigh up to 45 kg. The female is usually larger.*

*Female emus make a deep-throated drumming sound using air sacs in their throats. The male sound is different.*

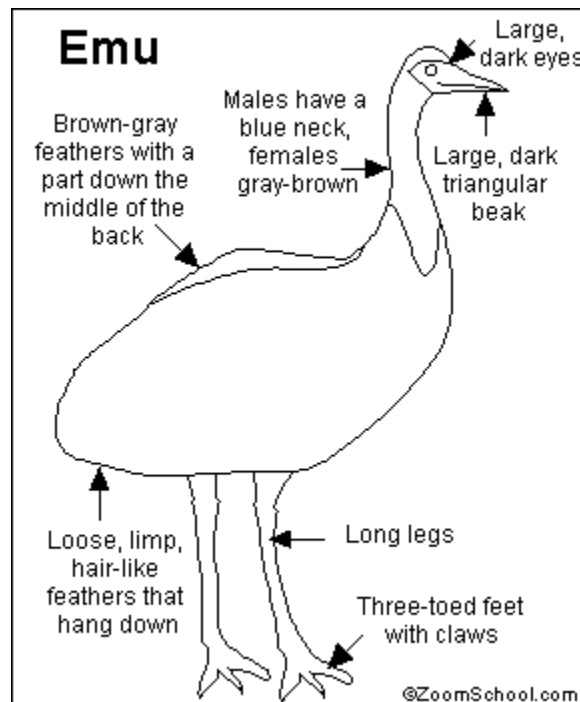
*Chicks are covered with striped (brown to black) down, with spotted heads.*

*The Emu feeds mainly on green herbage like grass, flowers, seeds etc, but they also eat insects (Grasshoppers). Emus try to drink once to twice a day.*

*Emus are most vulnerable as eggs or as hatchlings (young). Lizards eat Emu eggs and young emus are hunted by dingoes, eagles and non-native foxes, dogs and cats.*

*The female lays the dark green eggs (5 to 20 eggs) on the 1 very big nest which is built of grass and weeds on the ground by the male. The eggs are incubated by the male for 8 weeks. Once hatched the male cares for the hatchlings for 6 to 9 months.*

*More pictures about the emu:*



*A male incubating eggs.*



*Eggs and chicks.*

