

Host - introduction

- Let's meet our female greater bird of paradise - welcome Georgina!
- Whilst Georgina may be a little dull looking compared to the males of her species, she is looking for a partner with beautiful, bright plumage, someone that can dance and really knows how to shake his tail feathers!
- Georgina, you need to pick the male that has all the traits you are looking for:
 - good genes to ensure you have healthy offspring
 - bright feathers and a unique dance, to show he is free from parasites
- Our three contestants are all male greater birds of paradise. To help you decide which is the one for you, you can ask each contestant three questions.
- The choice is yours!

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Georgina the greater bird of paradise - questions

Question 1:

I'm impressed by a bird with good dance moves. Do you like to dance?

Question 2:

My favourite feather colours are yellow and white. What are your favourite colours?

Question 3:

I like a male greater bird of paradise to take care of himself, making sure his feathers are in top condition. What's your beauty routine?



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Contestant 1 - answers

Answer to question 1:

I don't really like to dance. I prefer to stay tucked up in my nest watching the Bird Factor.

Answer to question 2:

I prefer black. Dark colours are more me.

Answer to question 3:

I have a regular bath. That normally sorts out any dirty feathers.



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Contestant 2 - answers

Answer to question 1:

I love to dance. Other birds say I'm the best dancer in the forest.

Answer to question 2:

I'm very proud of my long yellow and white feathers. Some say they are my best feature.

Answer to question 3:

I have a bath daily to get rid of any dirt; I preen to get rid of any parasites and I sunbathe to keep my feathers healthy. Personal hygiene is very important.



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Contestant 3 - answers

Answer to question 1:

I'm quite a good dancer, but I'm a little bit shy. Sometimes I prefer to watch the other birds on the dance floor.

Answer to question 2:

I quite like my white feathers, but my friends say blue is the new white, so I might change them.

Answer to question 3:

I do try and take care of my feathers, but I know I should try harder. Sometimes, I just want a rest in the nest at the end of a hard day, instead of a bath.



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Host – decision time!

- So, Georgina, you've heard from all our contestants.
- We had contestant number one who likes dark colours and doesn't really like to dance. We had contestant two, who has bright feathers, is a great dancer and loves to take good care of himself. Then we had contestant number three, who is a little bit shy.
- Which male greater bird of paradise does the audience think Georgina should pick?
- The audience (hopefully!) has gone for contestant number two – the perfect match! This male greater bird of paradise has bright feathers and is a good dancer, which shows that he is strong and free from disease. This means he will pass on these good characteristics and produce healthy offspring.

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Host - introduction

- Let's meet our contestants: Cupid, Comet and Blitzen.
- These three eligible reindeer bulls are looking for their ideal doe, however there is only one left!
- They are going to have to use all their strength and cunning to be the last bull standing. Unfortunately they are too young to have fully grown antlers so are unable to lock horns - it looks like they will have to use their intelligence to outwit one another this time!
- Contestants, answer the following questions to compete for the last female in the rut!
- The first bull to call out the correct answer gets a point and the bull with the most correct answers at the end gets to date the doe!

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Host - questions

Question 1: What is the square root of 64?

Answer – 8

Question 2: Why is the male greater bird of paradise so brightly coloured?

Answer – So that females pick him as a mate

Question 3: Why do male reindeer have large antlers?

Answer – To fight with other male reindeer for a mate

Question 4: Give me an example of another species that has evolved an “ornament”

Answer - Any species with an ornament – check www.arkive.org. Examples include the resplendent quetzal, sticklebacks and bowerbirds.

Question 5: Give me an example of another species that has evolved a “weapon”.

Answer - Any species with a weapon – check www.arkive.org . Examples include red deer, elephants and rhinoceros beetles.

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Host - results

- Congratulations to our winner, you have successfully out competed the other bulls and have won the attention of Rita, our lovely reindeer doe.
- To our runners up - better luck next time boys!



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