Two African penguins, Peter and Phumla, waddled out of the sea to go to their nest on Dassen Island...

...and looked at each other with shock!

Their white feathers were a dark, dirty, brown colour.

Peter used his beak to preen himself.

taking each feather in turn in his beak to get rid of the dirt, but

Poor Peter and Phumla couldn’t get the sticky stuff off their feathers.
A ship had broken in half and the crude oil in it had leaked out into the sea, where Peter and Phumla caught the fish they eat. The oil had made their feathers all stick together.

Two schoolchildren, John and Londi, came to help the people who were trying to help Peter and Phumla and their penguin friends get clean again.

They had taken them all to one place and washed them with soap and water. Then they rinsed them off with a hose.

This soap also washed off the special kind of oil penguins have on their feathers to keep them warm and dry when they swim. Without this preening oil they couldn't swim out to catch their own food.
Because of this John and Londi kept them in a big penguin hospital and fed them on fish.

When the special oil was back on their feathers and they were strong enough to catch their own fish again, they were put back into the sea where there was no more nasty crude oil.

Everybody must take care not to pollute our oceans and rivers with anything that can kill birds and fish.

We are clean and the sea is too!
A
1) What kind of penguins were Peter and Phumla?
2) What was the name of the island they lived on?
3) What made their feathers dirty?
4) Where did the oil come from?
5) What did John and Lindi do?
6) How do penguins catch fish?

B
1) If 30 penguins are dirty and 23 are clean, how many penguins altogether?
2) There are 25 oily penguins, 18 get washed, how many are still oily?
3) 12 penguins, how many flippers?
4) 16 penguins, how many eyes?
5) There are 16 penguins in one pool, 14 in another pool, and 12 in another pool, how many penguins altogether?

C
WORD SEARCH

FIND THESE WORDS:
ship  penguin
beak  water
soap  white
broken  black
beach  oil
swim  dirty

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Draw a picture of John and Londi washing Peter and Phumla