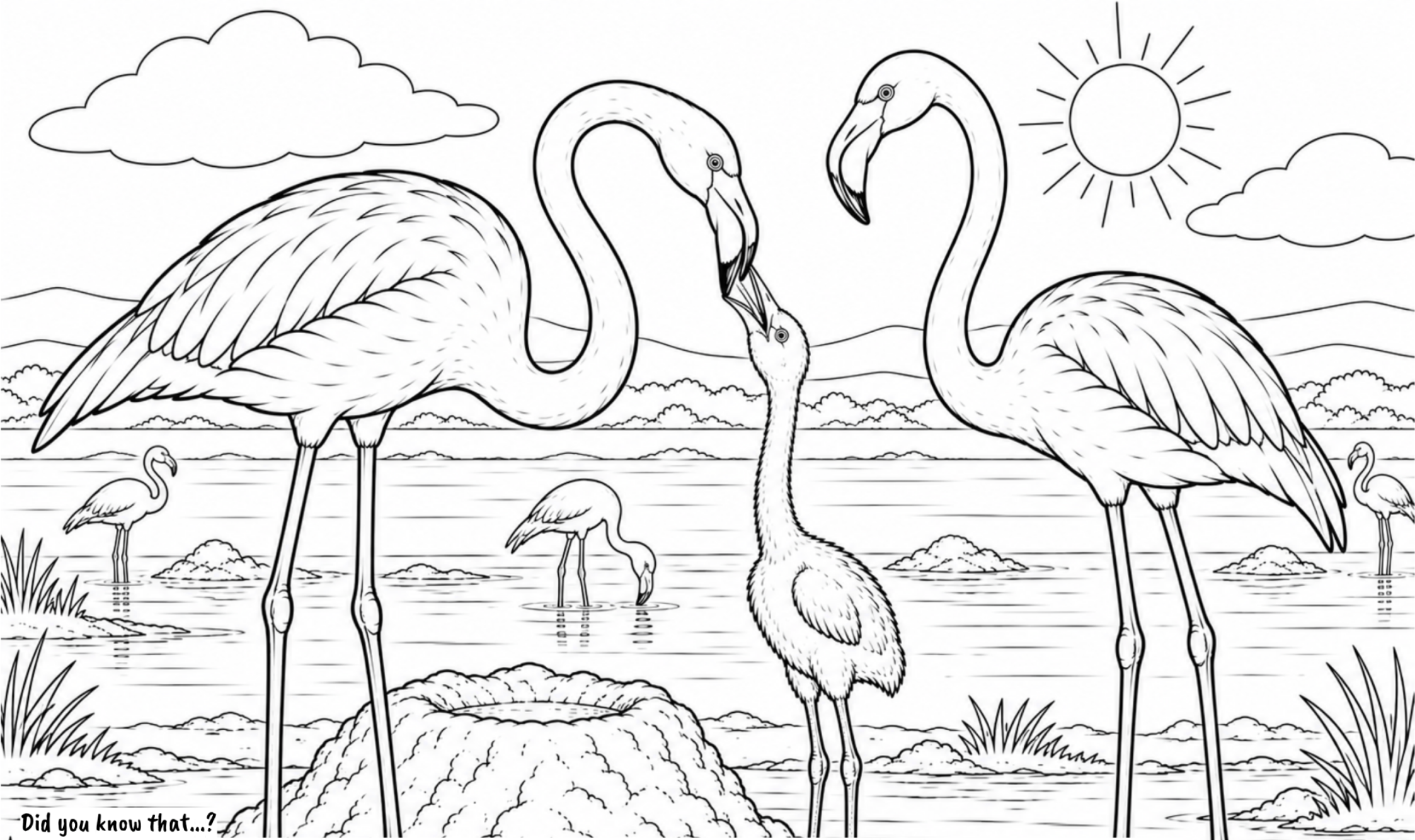


Did you know that...?

Greater flamingos feed their chicks a special nutritious liquid called crop milk. Unlike mammalian milk, this substance is produced in the upper digestive tract of the birds.
Flamingo crop milk is pink to red in color, so it can look like blood at first glance. In reality, it is a natural secretion rich in fats, proteins, and colorful pigments called carotenoids.
Both parents, male and female, can produce this unusual food. During feeding, they lower their heads toward the chick and deliver the nutritious liquid from their beaks.
Flamingo chicks hatch with whitish or grey fluffy down and almost straight beaks. Their beaks gradually develop a curved shape, eventually allowing them to filter tiny organisms from the water.
While caring intensively for their chicks, adult flamingos may lose some of their bright pink coloration because they transfer colorful pigments to their young through feeding.
Flamingos build raised nests from mud and usually lay just one egg. Both parents take turns caring for their chick as it grows and gradually learns to find food on its own.

IQcoloring.com