

## how flamingos feed

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# how flamingos feed

Flamingos feed with their heads down, and their bills are adapted accordingly. In most birds a smaller lower

beak works \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ upper one. In \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ is reversed; the \_\_\_\_\_ bill is much \_\_\_\_\_ and

stronger, and the fat \_\_\_\_\_ runs within the bill's deep central groove. To \_\_\_\_\_ the jaw reversal,

unlike other birds (and \_\_\_\_\_) the upper jaw is not rigidly fixed to \_\_\_\_\_ skull.

Consequently, with the bird's head \_\_\_\_\_ down during feeding the upper bill moves up and down,

permitting the flamingo's jaws \_\_\_\_\_ to work "normally."

Part of the flamingo's \_\_\_\_\_ feeding is \_\_\_\_\_ simply

by swinging the head back and forth and letting the water flow through the bill. The tongue also can be used as a

pump to pass water through the bill's \_\_\_\_\_ more \_\_\_\_\_. It moves quickly fore and aft in its

groove, sucking \_\_\_\_\_ in through the filter as it pulls \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ it

from the beak as it \_\_\_\_\_ forward. The tongue may repeat its cycle up to four times a

second.