

Spring

1. In your Garden

female



male



You will probably see blackbirds in your garden. The male blackbird is jet black with an orange or yellow beak. The females (and youngsters) are not black at all, but brown. See if you can spot them.



I make my nest in hedges. Please don't come too close when I've got eggs or little birds in it. I get scared!

They love worms and berries and will often turn over leaves with their beaks to find worms or insects to eat. They have a very pleasant song.



I think I've got the brightest beak in the garden! Do you agree?

Watch a blackbird for a few minutes. Does it hop or walk or both? Draw one.



I could enter the Olympics for birds!

Blackbird eggs are pale blue with brown specks. They usually lay between 3 and 5 eggs at a time.

2. Out and about

Look out for spring flowers

When you go for a walk or walk to school, you might see spring flowers like these. → There are thousands in Hughenden Park. Take a trip and have a look.




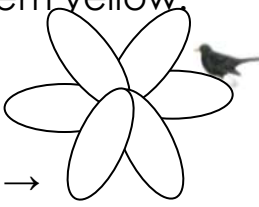
daffodil

Did you know?

- ▶ Daffodils usually grow from bulbs, which look a bit like onions. An onion is also a type of bulb.
- ▶ Daffodil bulbs are poisonous, so don't let your pets eat them.
- ▶ The daffodil is the national flower of Wales.
- ▶ The middle circular bit of the daffodil is called the trumpet because it is a trumpet shape. Look inside.
- ▶ Daffodil flowers have 6 petals around the outside of the trumpet. Can you draw one?
- ▶ Daffodils are yellow, orange or cream coloured, some have yellow petals and orange trumpet, some have cream petals and yellow trumpet, some are all yellow etc. How many different sorts can you find?
- ▶ The German for daffodil is 'Osterglocke' meaning Easter Bell.
- ▶ Bees, butterflies and other insects feed from nectar in flowers and in turn they pollinate the flower to produce seeds and fruits. We need pollinating insects to pollinate our food crops. Sow bee friendly flowers, such as pot marigolds, borage, lavender etc. in your garden this Spring to help them. 🐝

3. Art and Craft and Activities

Make a daffodil

1. Cut out 6 shapes like this,  about the size of your longest finger. These will be the petals. Colour them yellow.
2. Arrange the 6 petals in a circle with one end of each one in the centre and stick them together in the centre, like this → → → → → → 
3. Cut out one of the 'cups' from an egg box.
4. Colour it yellow or orange with paint or felt tips.
5. Stick it onto the centre of the 6 petals.
6. Stick the top of a green straw or stick on the back of the daffodil for a stem.
7. You could make other types of flowers in a similar way or be creative and make up your own flower.

Plant a bean

1. Put kitchen towel on the inside of a big jam jar.
2. Put 2 cms. of water into the bottom of the jar, so that the paper towel soaks up some of the water.
3. Place a bean or pea (or two) down between the side of the jar and the paper towel. Make sure you keep the paper towel damp.
4. When the peas or beans germinate you can watch the shoots grow up and roots grow down.
5. When the shoot reaches the top of the jar, you could plant your pea or bean in your garden.

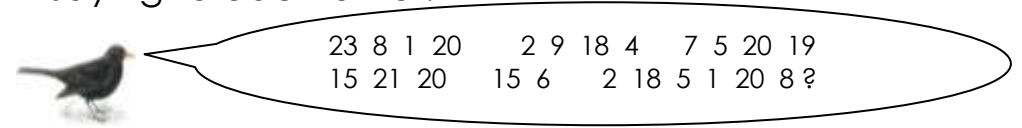
4. Puzzle and Jokes Corner

Code:

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

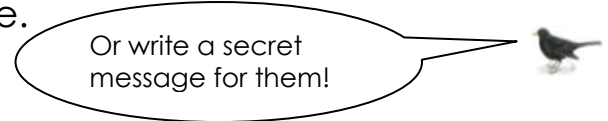
Decode this to find out what the two blackbirds are saying to each other.



23 8 1 20 2 9 18 4 7 5 20 19
15 21 20 15 6 2 18 5 1 20 8 ?

1 16 21 6 6 9 14

Try making up some code words for your friends to decode.



Or write a secret message for them!

Jokes

1. What do you call a blackbird at the North Pole?
2. What did the little bird say to the big bird?
3. What bird is with you at every meal?

How many blackbirds have you seen on this sheet?

Answers:

Code words: What bird gets out of breath? A Puffin.
Jokes: 1. Lost 2. Peck on someone your own size. 3. A swallow.
There are twelve blackbirds on this sheet.