

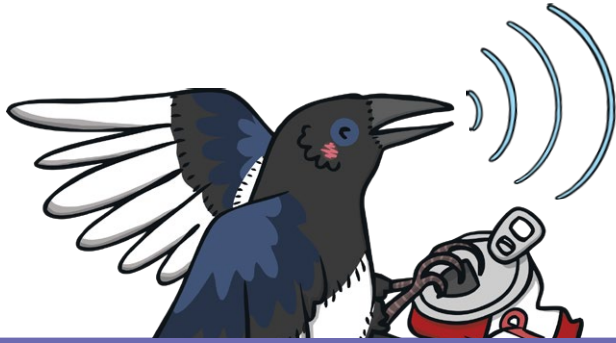
Magpie Facts: Part A

Bird Family: Crows

Science Name: Pica pica

Life Span: 3 years

Sound: Loud, chattering cackle



Nests: Built in trees



Tail: long



Beak: Black, thick



Colour: Black and white (with some blue and green)



What They Eat:



Minibeasts in summer



Plants in winter



Small animals all year round

Magpie Facts: Part B

Magpies mostly live in Europe and North America. There are lots of magpies in the UK.

Magpies look black and white from a long way away. When you are close to them, you can see their wings have a blue shine and their tails look green.



Magpies are omnivores. (They eat meat and plants.) In winter, they mostly feed on berries, plants and seeds. In the summer, they catch and eat beetles, flies, caterpillars, spiders and worms. Magpies sometimes eat other small animals, like mice and birds. When they have more food than they need, they hide spare food in holes in the ground.



Some humans like magpies because they eat insects which can damage plants.

Some people do not like magpies because they steal other birds' babies and eggs. They also take things that they want, like food or objects.

Magpies usually lay their eggs in April. The female bird sits on the eggs to keep them warm for around 18 days before they hatch. The eggs are blue-green with brown spots.

