

Kid Scoop .COM

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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CROWS

In the past, some people have tried to get rid of crows in a number of ways – even exploding dynamite where large numbers of the birds roost. But despite it all, crows have thrived and now live almost everywhere in North America.

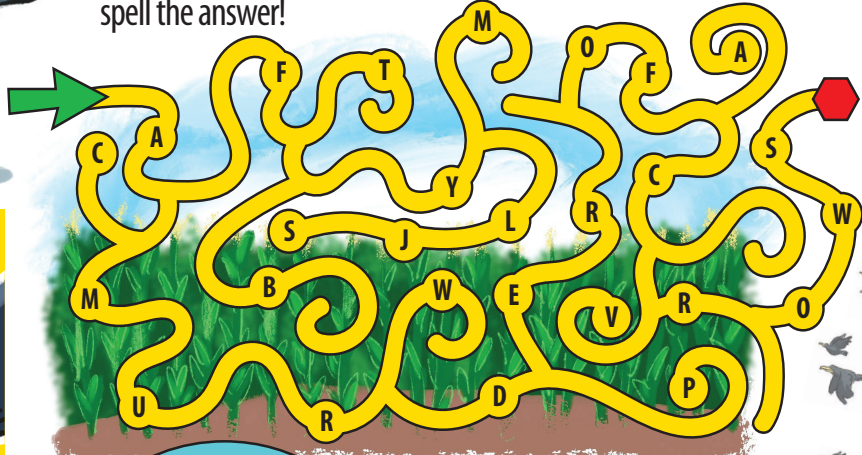


Do you know your crows? People haven't always been kind to crows. Farmers put up scarecrows to keep the birds out of their fields and gardens. Some people just don't like them.

Crows are intelligent birds. They also eat a lot of pests that can damage crops. But farmers know that one of the favorite foods these birds enjoy is corn!

What do you call a group of crows?

The letters along the correct path over the cornfield spell the answer!



A group of crows is called:

U _ _ R
_ F _
_ O _

Crows Hold 'Funerals'

Crows are famous for holding "funerals" when one of their kind has died. Crows will keep watch over a fallen bird, sometimes for many days. Scientists wonder if they feel sad or if they might be trying to figure out how the crow died so they can learn from it.

Some kinds of crows recognize human faces. Magpies and ravens have scolded researchers who get too close to their nests, even if the researcher changes clothing.

This crow removed some words from the story. Can you replace them?

GIFTS SHINY FOOD RECEIVED

When Gabi was four years old, she dropped some _____ on the ground. Quickly, a crow flew in and took off with it. Gabi then started feeding crows in her neighborhood by leaving out dry dog food bits.

Shortly after she started the daily feeding routine, little _____ started getting left on the food platform. Over time, Gabi has _____ nearly 100 little trinkets.

The crows have brought her buttons, a LEGO piece, charms, stones – most of the gifts are _____ things they can carry in their beaks. One time she got a little piece of _____ with the word, "best" on it. Was there another piece with the word "friend" on it? Gabi likes to think so.

Crows Use and Make Tools

Crows have been found using sticks to get insects out of small cracks and holes.

New Caledonian crows also make tools. They have been seen pulling the leaves off a stick and creating little hook-shaped tools from twigs, leaves and thorns.

Stumped? Answer at: kidscoop.com/answers

Can you make five squares by moving only two sticks?

Extra! Extra! Up in the Air

Look through the newspaper to find:

- 3 things that fly
- 3 words that describe crows
- 3 items crows might steal
- 3 places where crows are found

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Crows Can Solve Puzzles

Scientists have found that crows can solve puzzles that have up to eight steps. Can you solve this puzzle?

Circle the numbers that add up to 8. Put a box around the numbers that add up to 10. The numbers must be next to each other or above and below each other like this:

5	8	2	6	4
3	1	9	2	5
7	6	2	8	3
3	5	5	2	3

(Note: In the original image, the 5 in the first row and 8 in the second row are circled, and the 8 and 2 in the second row are boxed.)

Standards Link: Math: Solve logic puzzles.

Double Double Word Search

DYNAMITE
MAGPIES
THRIVED
INSECTS
RAVENS
THORNS
CROWS
TWIGS
TOOLS
NESTS
ROOST
CLOSE
STICK
HOOK
RID

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

I	N	E	T	I	M	A	N	Y	D
D	S	T	I	N	S	E	C	T	S
E	E	L	G	L	S	I	G	S	
V	E	D	I	R	N	N	T	A	T
I	I	W	O	P	S	E	N	D	S
R	T	O	S	L	G	V	M	W	E
H	S	H	O	O	K	A	O	A	N
T	H	O	R	N	S	R	M	R	T
S	T	I	C	K	C	L	O	S	E

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

KID SCOOP'S MISSION

Children are born curious. From their earliest days, sensory exploration brings delight and wonder. New discoveries expand their minds. When they unlock the joy of reading, their world widens further. Magic happens.

Kid Scoop opens the doors of discovery for elementary school children by providing interactive, engaging and relevant age-appropriate materials designed to awaken the magic of reading at school, at home, and throughout their lives.

For more information about our literacy non-profit, visit kidscoopnews.org

Kid Scoop Together:

With a family member, see if you can find each scarecrow's twin. Can you find the one unique scarecrow?

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Tools We Use

Look through the newspaper for examples of three or more tools that people use at work. Discuss what life would be like without those tools.

Standards Link: Use the newspaper to locate information.

How do crows stick together in a flock?

ANSWER: Velcro!

Write On!

If You Were a Bird

If you were a bird, what kind of bird would you be? Why?