

The Bird in the Forest

A bird fights against the odds to save her beloved home.



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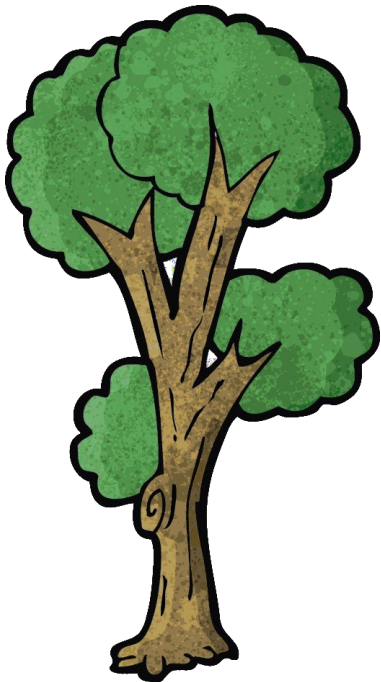


A traditional tale

At last the fire was put out and the forest was saved. The Eagle God returned to heaven and the little bird to her tree.

One by one, her friends crept back into the forest.

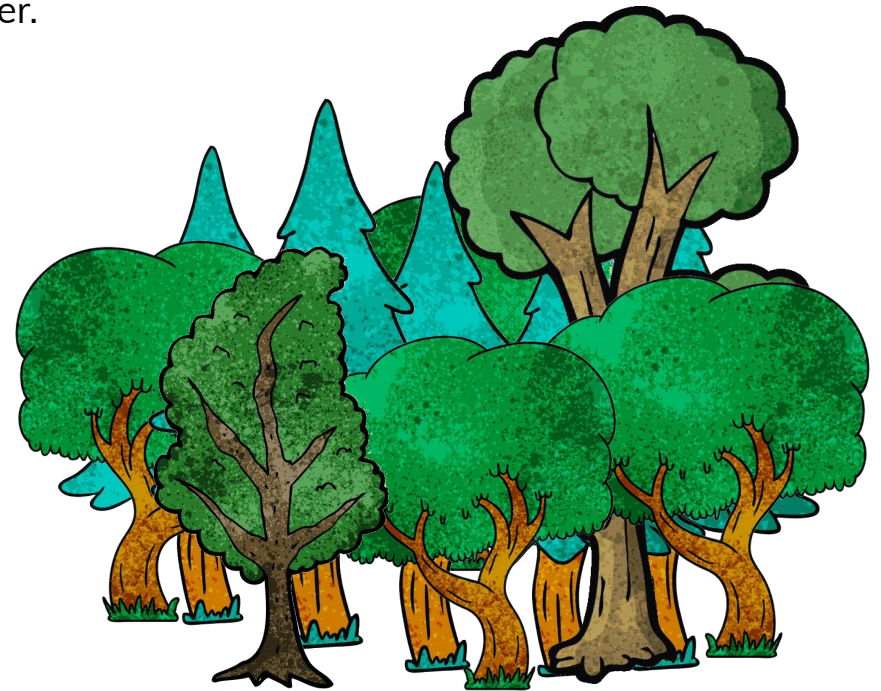
And by spring, new shoots of life were peeping up through the carpet of ash on the forest floor.



The Bird in the Forest

Once there was a large, green forest and in that forest there was a big, tall tree. In this tree lived a little bird who loved her home very much.

She loved the leaves, the branches, the tree and the whole forest. It was her home and it was special to her.



One day the little bird could smell something strange. She flew up, high over the treetops and spotted something in the distance. She could see a fire! It was a huge snaking shape of flames and smoke coming towards her.

She called down to her friends, "It's a fire, we must do something!"

But all her friends fled. "Run away with us," they called, "otherwise you will die. The fire is not safe!"

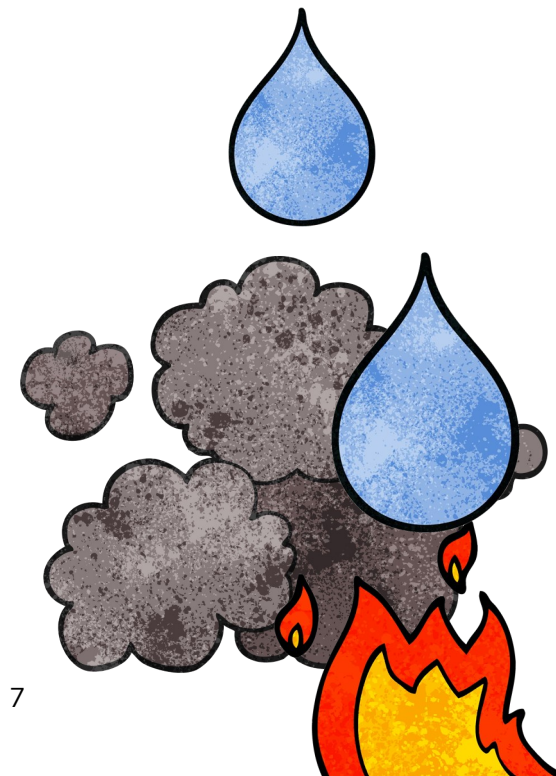
And they all ran away, through the forest, with the sound of the fire behind them.



The Eagle God was so filled with compassion that large tears began to drip from his eyes.

The teardrops hissed and fizzled in the fire, but they were so big and soon there was stream of them.

Then the stream became a river of tears pouring on the fire.





"Listen, little bird," said the Eagle God, "You must fly away. Your attempts to put out the fire won't work. You will lose your home and you might die."

"I don't care if I die," cried the bird. "I love my home and I will do everything I can to save and protect it."

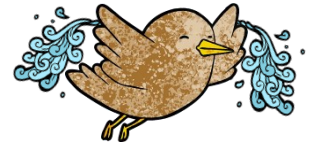


But the little bird loved her home and she would not leave it to be destroyed. From up high she noticed a blue stream threading through the forest.

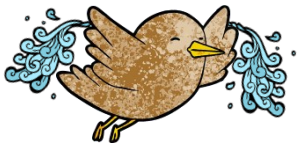
"I know what I can do - water puts out fire!" she thought.

She flew down to the stream and dipped her wings into the water. She then soared back to the sky above.

When she was over the fire, she tipped her wings to release the droplets of water. The water hissed and fizzed away in the flames in an instant.



She flew back to the stream again and again, wetting her wings and returning to the burning forest, sprinkling the drops of water from her wing onto the fire, where they always fizzled out...



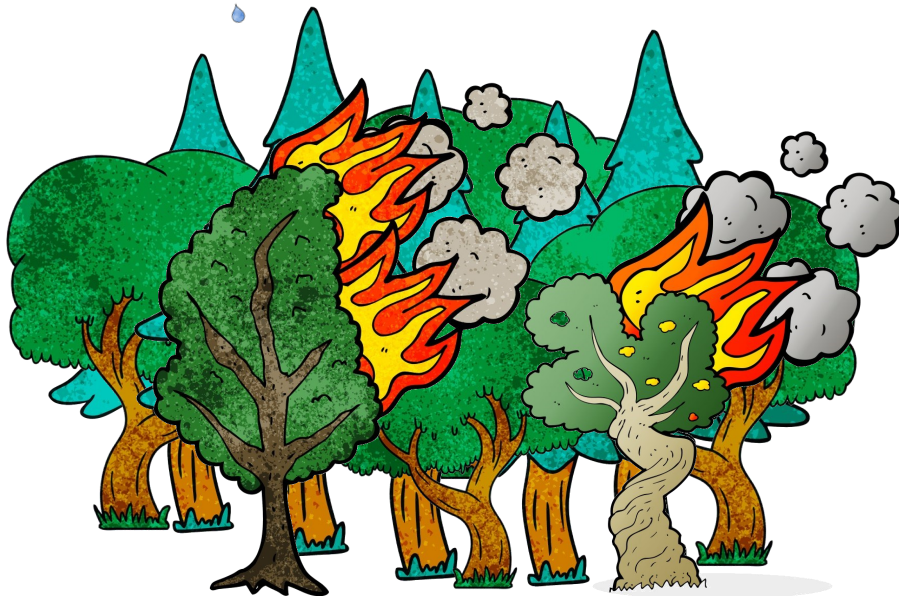
...and the fire was burning closer and closer to her tree.

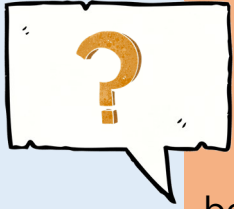


Up in the heavens, the gods looked down and laughed at the little bird's hopeless quest to save her home.

But one god, the Eagle God, did not laugh. He was full of admiration.

He swooped down from heaven to join the little bird as she flew between stream and fire.





Read the story together and talk about it. You could ask questions beginning with...

who

what

when

why

where

how



- **What** do you think the eagle god thought when he saw the bird trying to put out the fire?
- **How** important is your home to you?

You could ask questions about how the characters in the story are feeling...

How did the bird feel when she noticed her home was on fire?

Why do you think she felt like that?



**Tell me
a joke!**

What kind of trees can you fit in your hand?

Palm trees!

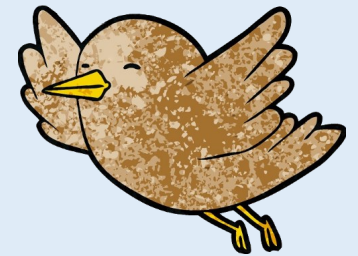


How do trees go on the internet?

They just log in.

Why do hummingbirds hum?

They don't know the words.



Do you know any more jokes?

Can you make up your own?

The Bird in the Forest



Talk about...



The Bird in the Forest



Talk about...



In the story, the bird does everything she can to protect her home, even though she risks getting hurt.



Talk about your favourite places or places that are important to you and why they are special. It can be your home or someone else's or somewhere that holds special memories.



Why do you love it? What would you do if you could go back?

Did you know?

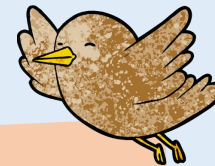
More animals live in forests than anywhere else in the world.



There are around 10,000 different species of bird worldwide.



Around 2,000 trees are cut down every minute from forests as we use the trees for wood and paper.



Birds have hollow bones which makes flying much easier.

Scientists believe that humans began using fire to cook food around 1 million years ago.



The Bird in the Forest



Talk about...



The Bird in the Forest



Talk about...

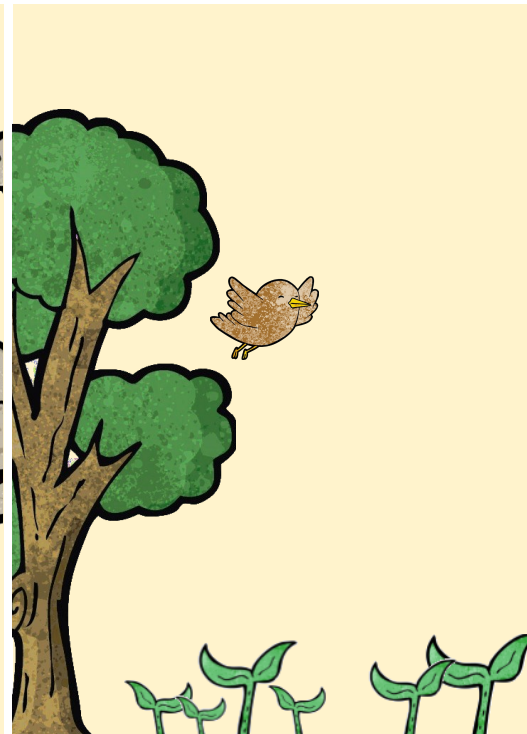
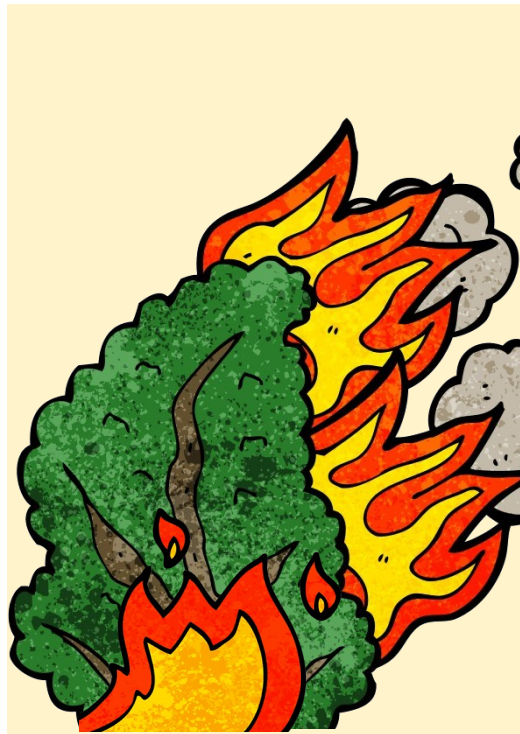
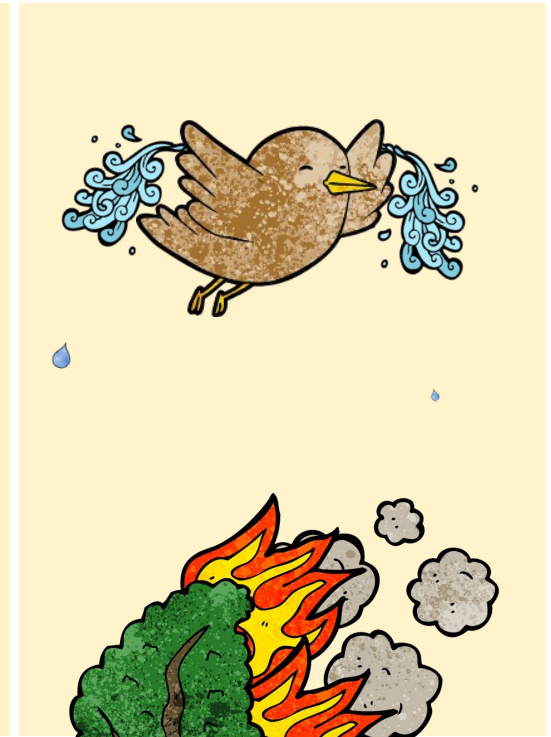
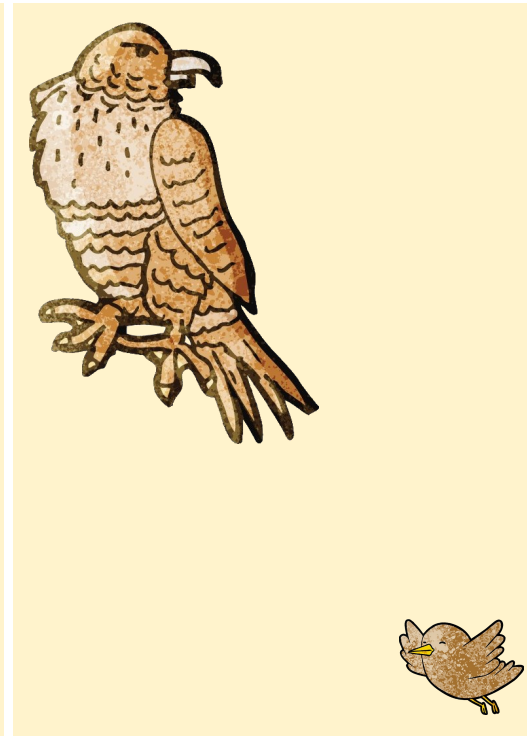


Story sequence cards

Cut out these cards and use them to help you tell the story. You may need to use some of the cards more than once!

Can you shuffle them and then put them in the right order?

Can you change the order to make a silly story?



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Sequence



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Sequence



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Sequence



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Sequence



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Sequence



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Sequence



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Sequence



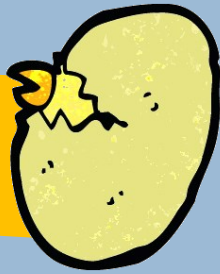
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Sequence



Beak Pick Up

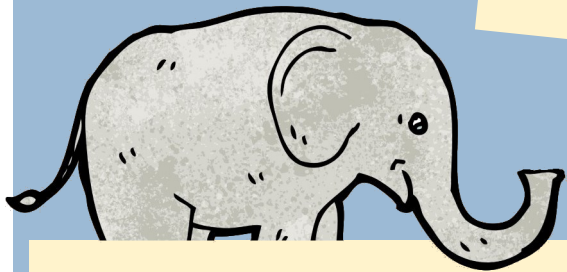


Birds don't have hands;
they have to use their
beaks to pick things up!

Go to a park with your family
and find two twigs. These
are your "beak". Can you pick
things up with them?



Which things are easy to
pick up with a stick beak?
Which things are trickier?



Talk about having a stick beak.
Would you be able to pick up an elephant?
What about a tiny pebble?



Stop, Drop, Rock & Roll



If someone catches on
fire, they should stop
what they're doing,
drop down to lie on the
floor and roll around to
put the fire out.
Practice this in this fun
game!



Play your favourite
music and dance
around. Have
someone in charge of
the music and get
them to pause it
randomly. When the
music stops, **just stop,
drop, rock and roll!**



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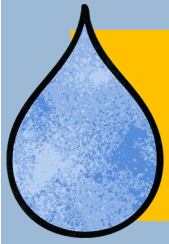


Play out!

The Bird in the Forest



Play out!



Water Transporter

All you need for this game is one bucket or bowl of water and another empty bucket or bowl.

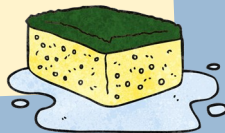
In the story, the bird uses her wings to transport water and put out the fire... What can you use?

Put the bowls on either side of the space you're playing in. It is easier to play outside—mess free! If you need to be indoors, it's probably best to use the bathroom as the floor will get quite wet...



Using whatever you can find, try to get the water from one bowl to another. You can't pick up either of the buckets!

Try using your hands, sponges, cups, etc. Which is the best water transporter?



Safe Place

(hide and seek tag)

Can you move to and from your safe place like the bird did in the story?

You can play this game in any open space. You need to decide on a safe place for a 'base'. This could be under a tree or even just a mat on the floor.



One person is 'it'. They count to an agreed number with their eyes closed while the others hide. They then begin to look for everyone. While they search, everyone else tries to get back to the safe place without being spotted.



If the person who is 'it' catches them on their way back to the safe space, that person becomes 'it'.

The Bird in the Forest



Play out!

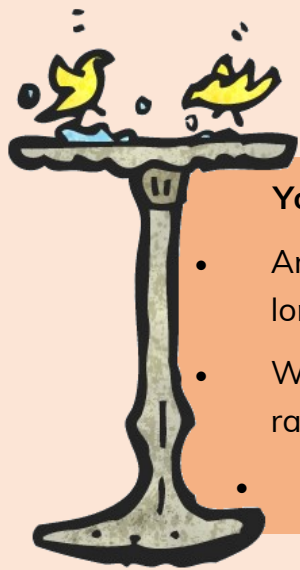


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Play out!





Bird bath

You will need:

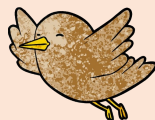
- An old shallow bowl or plate that you no longer need—or find one in a charity shop.
- Water (you can use tap water or wait for a rainy day!)
- Some stones—see what you can collect.



Line the shallow bowl or plate with the stones you have collected. These attract the birds and give them somewhere to stand without falling in the water!

Place the bowl or plate outside somewhere that the birds can go, ideally out of the reach of cats.

Then, fill the bowl or plate with water—or you can wait for the rain to do the work for you.



Enjoy watching your feathery visitors!

If you have a cat, make sure it wears a bell so that the birds know to fly away!



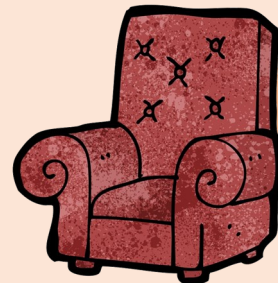
Bird's nest



Go for a walk in the park to collect leaves and twigs. Can you make a bird's nest out of them?



Birds collect lots of different items to make their nests warm and comfortable. What makes your home comfortable?



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Make it!

The Bird in the Forest



Make it!