

Steer clear of swooping magpies

Name _____ Date _____

Source: The Satellite (Australia) September 13 2010

<http://www.thesatellite.com.au/story/2010/09/13/steer-clear-of-swooping-magpies-sat/>

It's time to get out your 'space helmets' and umbrellas – magpies are swooping as they protect their chicks.

The magpie breeding season lasts from July until December. During the breeding season, the best approach is to stay well clear of areas where magpies are known to be swooping, particularly the nesting tree.

Not all magpies swoop and those that do are only trying to be good parents.



The Moreton Bay Regional Council wants residents to be 'magpie-smart'. They state that if you must enter the area, move through it quickly. Wear a hat and sunglasses or carry an umbrella.

Cyclists should dismount and walk through the magpies' territory.

One strategy cyclists have been using for the past few years is to attach large cable ties to the back of their helmet. The best approach seems to be two plastic cable ties of any colour, sticking up like antennae.

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Questions

1. Why do magpies swoop? _____

2. What does 'magpie-smart' mean? _____

3. When do they swoop? _____

4. Why should cyclists dismount? _____

True False N/A

5. You should stroll through magpie areas. _____

6. Magpies attack in the morning. _____

7. Some magpies swoop. _____

8. You could attach a blue cable tie to your helmet. _____

Find a word in the story that means:

9. method _____

10. domain _____

11. inhabitants _____

12. alight _____

'ea' sound:

ord ___ l

reh ___ rse

pl ___ sure

m ___ gre

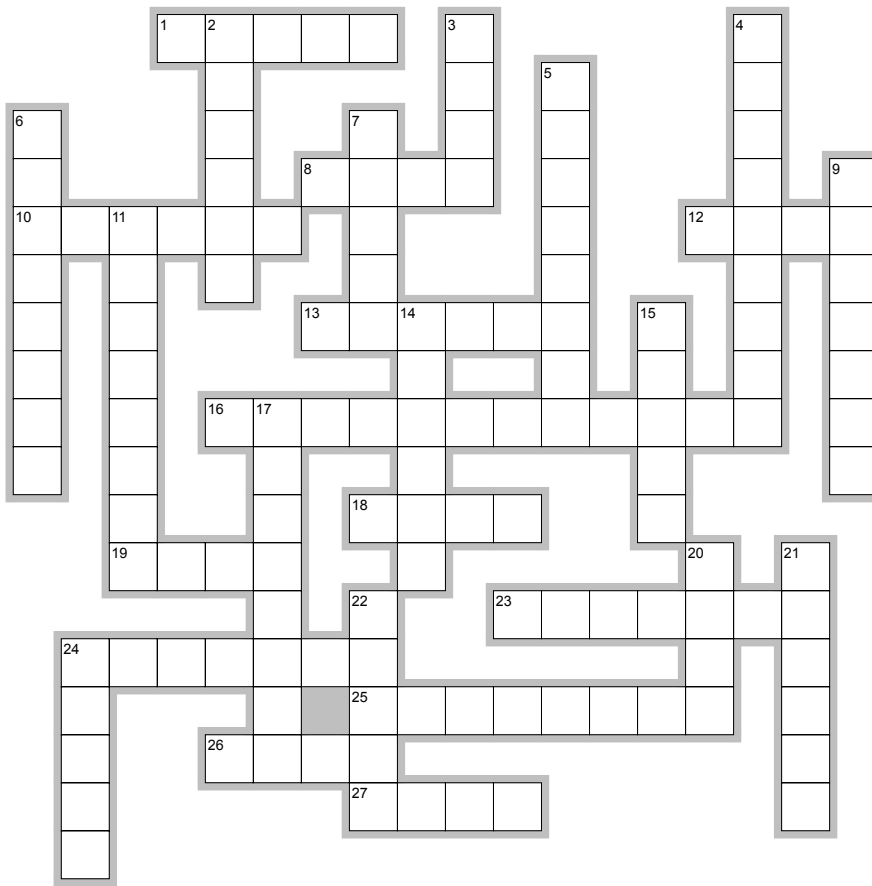
pl ___ sant

dec ___ sed

Use the above words in sentences.

Swooping Magpies L1-L2 Crossword

Kindly contributed to www.skillsworkshop.org by Craig Sullivan



EclipseCrossword.com

Across

1. A group of birds
8. Saunter or amble
10. Push these to move a bike
12. 'To take someone for a ____' (Idiom). To deceive someone
13. Give flavour to food
16. Specifically or especially
18. 'As ____ as a bird' (Simile)
19. Hours, minutes and seconds
23. Going from one side or end to the other
24. An aerial made of metal
25. A plan for how to do something
26. Better than anyone or anything else
27. Bird food
5. Having to do with a certain area
6. Method
7. Very strong rope or wire
9. 'As light as a ____' (Simile).
11. To come down / off something
14. A large cage for birds
15. 'Kill two ____ with one stone' (Idiom). Resolve two problems with one action.
17. Part of an insect used to sense (plural)
20. The middle of winter (in Australia)
21. Young women (informal).
22. To endure or continue (2nd person singular)
24. Attach

Down

2. 'A ____ bird told me' (Idiom). Anonymous information source
3. A bird uses this to get food
4. An area that is occupied and defended by an animal

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