Children's
Picture Book
HENRY
THE
MAGPIE
By Tony Vinckx

Copyright Disclaimer

This publication is for personal, private, and educational purposes only. No claim is made as to the accuracy or authenticity of this publication. No person is permitted to use the publication for personal gain, profit, or commercial purposes.

The author does not accept any liability to any person for the information, photography or advice (or the use of such information, photography or advice) that is incorporated into it by reference.

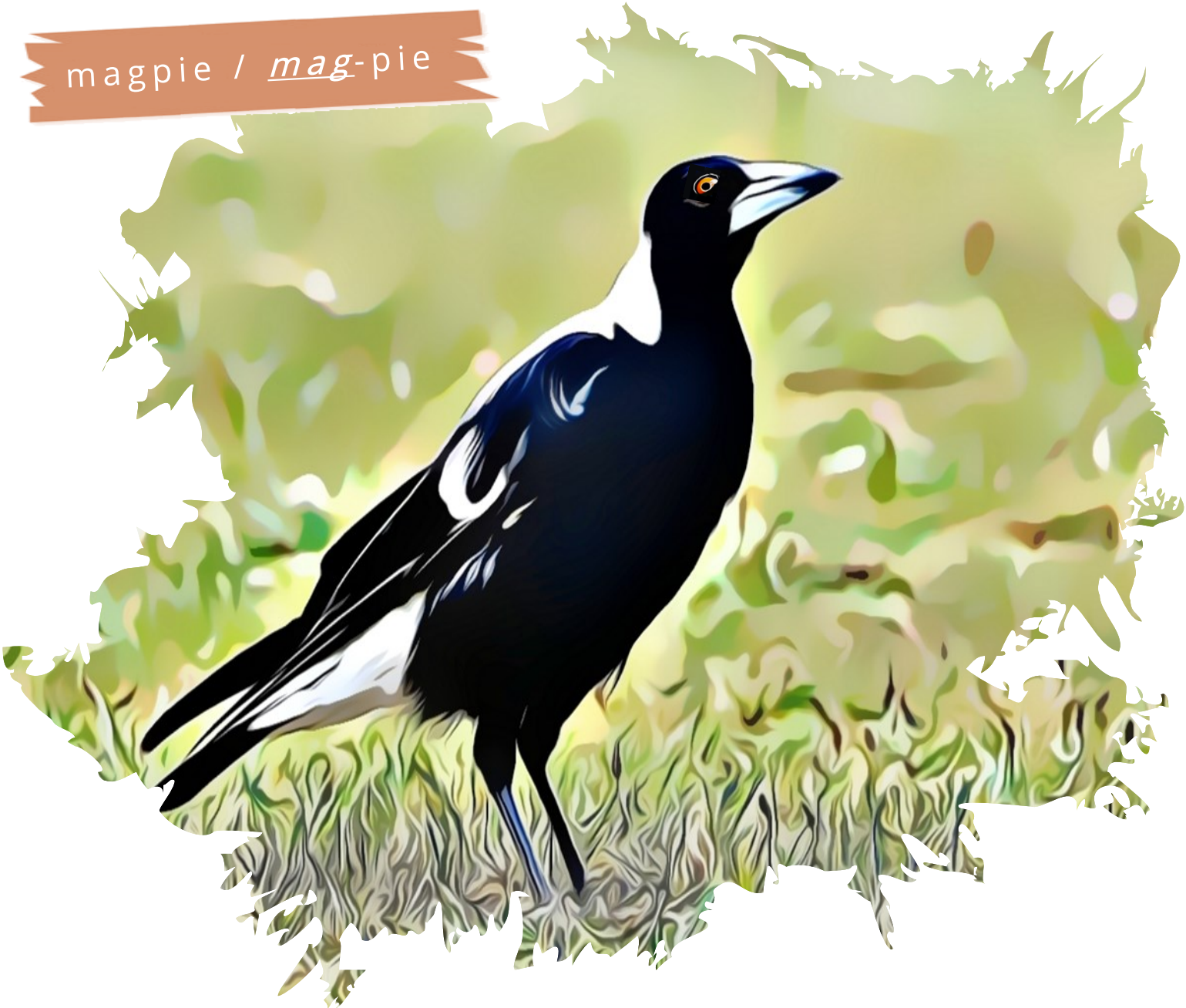
The information contained in the publication represents the expressed views of this author. This publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means; electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning, or otherwise, without requiring permission from the author.

This publication is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives 4.0 (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0) 4.0 International License. Please credit the author and/or blog if sharing this self-published children's picture book.

This publication was written, edited, and designed by Tony Vinckx, 2024
http://tonyvinckx.wordpress.com

HENRY THE MAGPIE

magpie / *mag*-pie



My name is Henry, and I am a popular Australian native bird known as the Australian magpie. Today, I am going to share some information about our species.

Like all magpies, we have a mixture of black and white feathers, we have red eyes, a blue-grey bill with a dark tip, our legs are black, our head, belly and tail tip are all black, and on our shoulders, wings, lower back, tail, and the back of our head, we have splashes of white.

My partner’s feather colours are slightly different. While I have white feathers on my back, she has spotted white and grey feathers. We live in most areas of Australia, and we live up to 30 years of age.

My partner and I will live in the same place our whole lives.
That means we will stay in the same area, in the same town,
and live on the same street for our entire lives.

We prefer a place that has one or more tall trees, such as a gum tree, with a lot of open space and grassland. During the day, we fly to nearby trees in our space to spot any intruders and walk on the ground to look for food.

Magpie Facts 1

Did you know the top of my head is called the crown. The bill is what we use to eat. The breast is the largest part of our front body. Another name for our back is called the mantle. The back of our neck is called the nape, and our tail is what we use for flying.

Magpie Facts 2

Did you know that feathers keep us warm, protect us from the cold and rain, and they give each magpie their unique colour markings. The main feathers that cover our body are called vaned feathers, and the feathers in the wings and tail are called primary flight feathers, which we use for flying.

We enjoy singing in the morning before dawn and just before nighttime. This is known as carolling. Other magpies in the area will often join us, and we sing together in a duet.

carolling / car-*ol*-ling

During the day, we spend a lot of time looking for food in our territory. We use our bills to probe the grass and soil to find food. We like to eat worms, snails, and different insects such as cockroaches and ants. We will also eat grain and birdseed.

hunting / *hunt*-ing

We can hear the sound of grubs and worms living under the soil, so if you ever see us turn our heads to one side while walking across the grass, that's because we are hunting for food?

My partner will create a bird nest in a large tree during the breeding season. The nest is shaped like a bowl and is made of sticks and twigs. The inside is lined with soft materials such as grass, hair, and tree bark.

greenish / *green*-ish

The bird nest is about 15 meters above the ground. Each year, we lay a clutch of two to five eggs. The eggs are greenish or light blue in colour, oval-shaped, and measure about 3 to 4 cm.

partner / *part*-ner

My partner will keep the eggs warm for approximately three weeks, and then one or more baby magpies or chicks will be born. We continue feeding the chicks for about 4 weeks before they are ready to fly.

The chicks will open their eyes around 10 days old. They are born naked, but fine baby feathers will begin to grow after the first week they are born.

Thank You for previewing this eBook

You can read the full version of this eBook in different formats:

- HTML (Free /Available to everyone)
- PDF / TXT (Available to V.I.P. members. Free Standard members can access up to 5 PDF/TXT eBooks per month each month)
- Epub & Mobipocket (Exclusive to V.I.P. members)

To download this full book, simply select the format you desire below