

The Amazing Woodpecker

By: Have Fun Teaching

The woodpecker is an interesting and amazing bird. It has a strong, pointed beak that acts as a hammer to remove bark from trees and find insects to eat. It has a very long tongue, up to four inches long, that is sticky on the tip for catching insects.

Most birds have one toe pointing back and three pointing forward on each foot. Woodpeckers are a little bit different. They have two sharp claws pointing back and two sharp claws pointing forward on each foot to help them hold on to the sides of trees.



The life span of a woodpecker is 4-11 years. Their favorite foods are insects, fruit, acorns and nuts. These awesome birds live in forests and wooded areas with lots of trees. Woodpeckers can be found all over the world, except in Australia.

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Read the story. Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. Why do woodpeckers remove bark from trees?
 - A. They like making noise
 - B. To find insects to eat
 - C. To build a home
 - D. They use a hammer
2. How many claws do woodpeckers have on each foot?
 - A. One
 - B. Two
 - C. Three
 - D. Four
3. About how long do woodpeckers live?
 - A. About 7 years
 - B. About 20 years
 - C. About 2 years
 - D. About 411 years
4. What types of foods do woodpeckers like to eat?
 - A. Insects
 - B. Fruit
 - C. Acorns and Nuts
 - D. All of the above
5. Where is one place that you will not find woodpeckers?
 - A. America
 - B. Wooded areas
 - C. Australia
 - D. Forests

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ANSWER KEY

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 - B. To find insects to eat*
 - C. To build a home
 - D. They use a hammer
2. How many claws do woodpeckers have on each foot?
 - A. One
 - B. Two
 - C. Three
 - D. Four (two pointing back and two pointing forward)*
3. About how long do woodpeckers live?
 - A. About 7 years*
 - B. About 20 years
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 - D. About 411 years
4. What types of foods do woodpeckers like to eat?
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 - B. Fruit
 - C. Acorns and Nuts
 - D. All of the above*
5. Where is one place that you will not find woodpeckers?
 - A. America
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 - C. Australia*
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