

# Song thrush



I am a song thrush.

I am a brown bird with small black spots on my breast.

Can you see the spots in the picture?

I am a little bit smaller than a blackbird.



When I am on the ground I will hop or run in straight lines looking for earthworms.

I will pause and look for any signs of movement. If I don't see any I will move on again.

As soon as I see an earthworm poking out of the surface I will grab it.

Imagine you are a song thrush looking for earthworms. Practice hopping forward on both legs. Stop and look for food. Then move forward again.

I will sing during the day and evening.

In April I was hatched from an egg.

I had two brothers and one sister.

How many song thrush chicks were there?



My nest was built by my mother in the shape of a cup from twigs, grass, moss and mud.

Growing up is not easy and there are many dangers.

Grey squirrels may destroy our nests.



A sparrowhawk or a cat may catch and eat a young song thrush.

It is important that young song thrushes try to keep safe by hiding in cover to avoid predators.

I like to eat earthworms, snails, slugs caterpillars and other insects.

Can you see the food in the song thrush's beak in the first picture?

I will also eat fruit and berries when they are available.

## **Eating snails**

My parents taught me how to eat snails.

I would bang a snail on a stone until its shell cracked.

I would wipe the snail on the ground to clean away any pieces of shell.

I would then eat the fleshy part.

The stone is called a thrush's anvil.

You might like to try opening a walnut or other shelled nut by holding the nut in one hand and then banging it against a stone.

Imagine how much harder it would be if you had to hold the nut in your mouth and then bang it against a stone.

Please do not try this. You might get the nut stuck in your throat.

See if you can find the following words:  
 Song, thrush, snail, bush, eat

S	B	A	R	K	L
O	U	A	E	E	T
N	S	N	A	I	L
G	H	T	T	X	S
T	H	R	U	S	H
C	R	U	S	H	E

How many points can you get?

Task	Tick	Points
Have you seen a song thrush?		4
Did you notice its spots?		1
Did it have any food in its beak?		3
Total points		

Please try to answer these questions:

What colour is a song thrush?

How many spots do you think a song thrush has: 10, 50 or more than 100?

What do they like to eat?

Describe how they eat snails:

If you were a young song thrush, how would you avoid predators?