

Blackbird

Habitat Hero



Green-Schools

An Taisce

Seen in Ireland:

Year Round

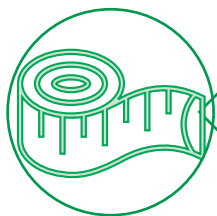
Common Name: Blackbird
Irish Name: Lon Dubh
Scientific Name: *Turdus merula*



Male/Daddy



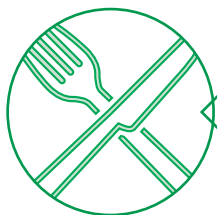
Female/Mammy



Size: The blackbird is 23.5–29 cm long, has a long tail, and weighs 80–125 g.



Habitat (where it lives): Blackbirds are found almost everywhere in Ireland; you'll see them in school grounds, gardens and countryside.

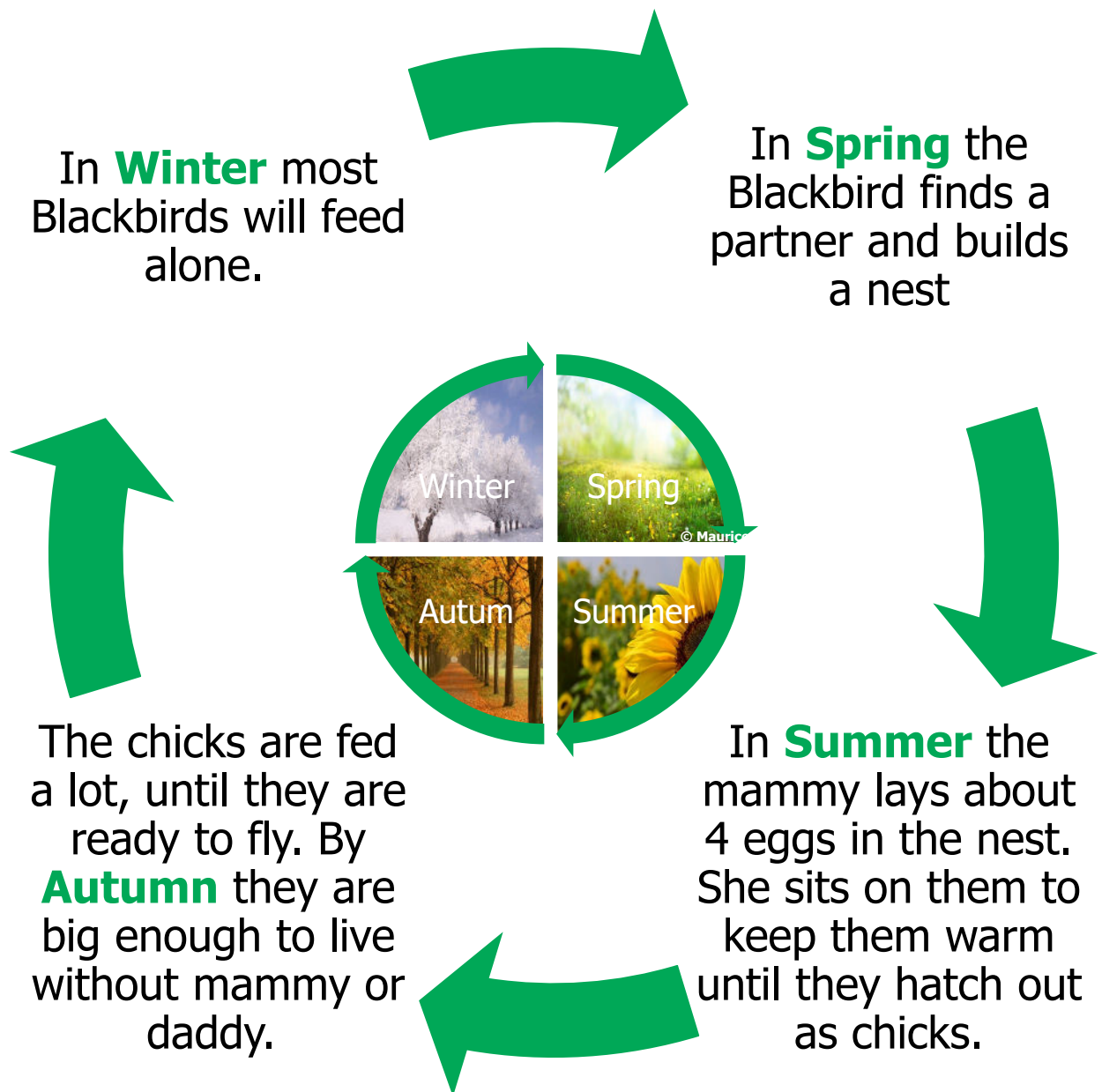


Diet: They eat insects, especially earthworms, but they also enjoy berries and other fruit including apples



Life: They live about 2-3 years, but some birds have been known to live 10+ years.

Blackbird Life Cycle



Blackbird

Some more Facts:

- Male or 'daddy' blackbirds are black, and female 'mammy' blackbirds are in fact brown!
- The males have a bright yellow beak and a ring around the eye.
- Their song sounds a bit like a flute and travels far in the air.
- Blackbird chicks in gardens are usually fed earthworms; woodland chicks are fed mainly caterpillars. Why do you think that is? Do you think the garden chicks are just fussy eaters?
- A blackbird's nest is cup-shaped and is made of grass, straw and small twigs.
- It is plastered inside with mud and lined with fine grass.
- It can take two weeks to complete!
- The eggs that are laid are a beautiful blue green colour!

