



Corvids: Masterminds of the Bird World

Corvids are a family of birds that include crows, ravens, jays, and jackdaws. They are famous for their intelligence. These birds can solve (1)....., use tools, and even recognize themselves in mirrors. Let's learn more about these (2)..... creatures and what makes them so special!

Crows are some of the smartest animals in the world. Scientists have done experiments with New Caledonian crows, showing they can make tools. For example, a crow was given a piece of wire and a tube with (3)..... inside. The crow bent the wire into a hook with its beak and used it to pull the food out. This shows they can think ahead and solve problems.

Ravens, which are larger than crows, are also very smart. In the wild, ravens have been seen playing (4)....., like sliding down snowy hills for fun. They can also plan for the future. One experiment showed that ravens could hide food in (5)..... places to eat later, even days after hiding it.

Magpies are clever and curious birds, known for their love of shiny objects. They can recognize their own reflection in a mirror, which shows they are very smart. Magpies are also good at solving problems and working together to find food.

Jays are another member of the corvid family. The Eurasian jay is known for hiding nuts and (6)..... What's amazing is that jays remember exactly where they hide their food. Even months later, they can find it! Jays are also very good at "thinking about thinking." They can guess what other birds might do and change their behavior to stay one step ahead.

Jackdaws are smaller corvids, but they are no less clever. These birds have strong social bonds and can recognize human (7)..... In one study, jackdaws learned to open a box to get food by watching humans do it first. They are great at learning from (8).....

In the wild, corvids are problem-solvers. They use their (9)..... and claws to open shells, drop nuts on roads for cars to crack, or even distract other animals to steal food.

Corvids are not just ordinary birds – they are nature's inventors and thinkers. Next time you see a crow or raven, remember: it might be watching you and (10)..... something new! Which corvid do you think is the smartest?

Word Bank

faces, games, sound, others, clever, learning, secret, food, problems, seeds, beaks