Spring for the Birds

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In spring, birds start to sing.
They are looking for a mate.

Here are mummy and daddy blue-tit.
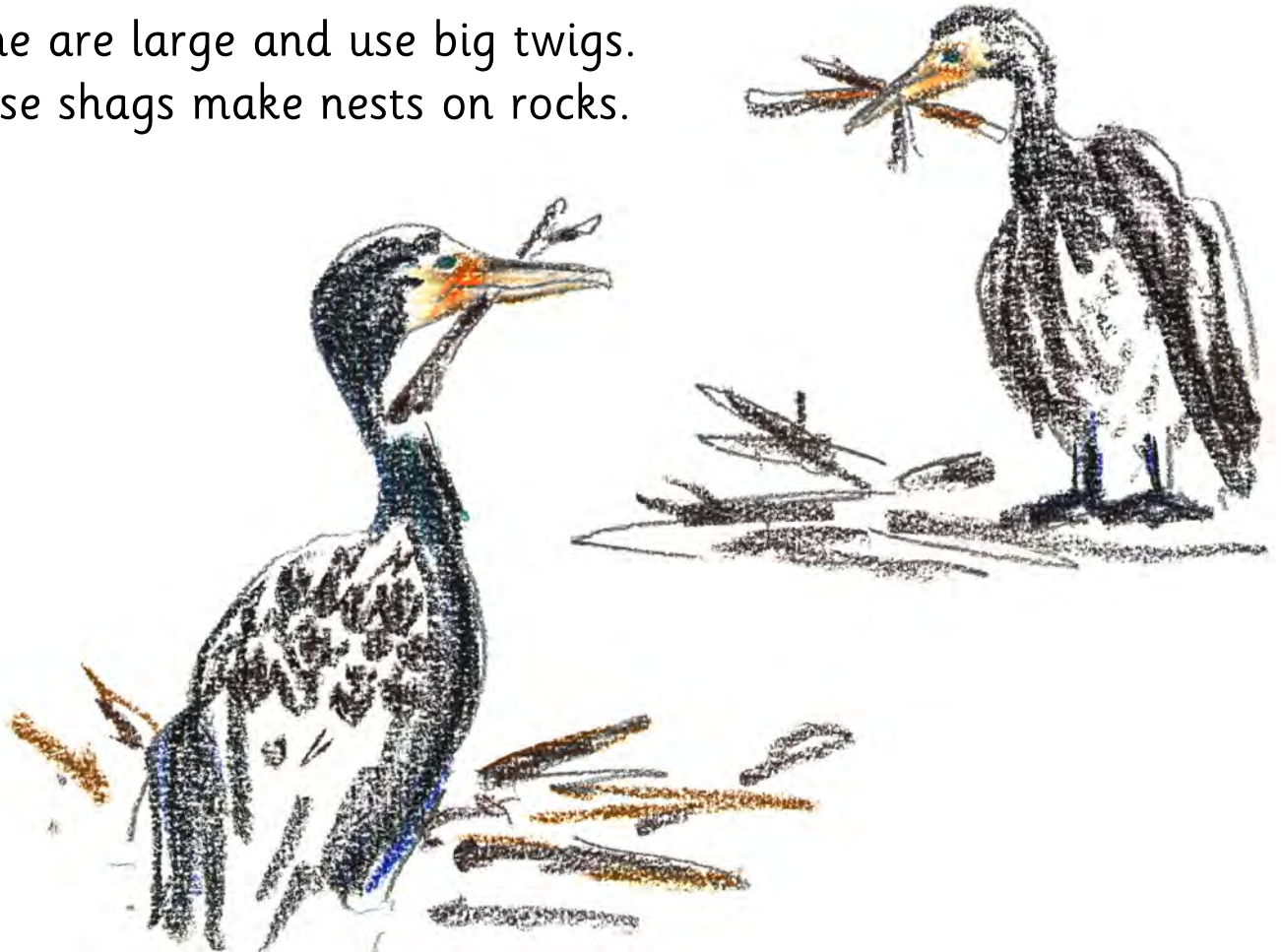
They plan to
make a nest.

They are looking for nice soft
stuff to make the nest comfy.

In spring, lots of other birds are making nests too.

Some are large and use big twigs.
These shags make nests on rocks.

Some are tiny and need small, safe places.
These wrens make nests in holes in walls.

Ducks nest near the river or pond where they live.

Once the nest is finished, mummy blue-tit lays her eggs.

Other birds lay eggs too.

The shag's eggs are big.

The wren's eggs are tiny!

Eggs must be kept warm. So the mummy bird or the daddy bird must sit on them all the time. They cannot get cold or the baby bird inside the egg will die!

The mummy duck sits on the eggs for a whole month. She is not able to eat much at all because she cannot leave her eggs.

Mummy blue-tit sits on her eggs.
Sometimes daddy blue-tit brings her some food.

Once the eggs are ready, they start to hatch.
The baby birds break the shell with their beaks.

The baby ducks are called ducklings.

There are a lot of baby blue-tits.

The baby wrens are very tiny. The mummy and daddy wren have to bring them insects to eat.

Baby blue-tits like caterpillars.

Mummy and daddy shag eat little shell fish and small sea worms. Then they feed their babies.

Ducklings also like to eat worms. Yuk!

Once the babies get bigger they have to
learn to fly. This is not easy!

Sometimes baby birds fall out of the nest.
They need to be saved.

"Thank you!" sings the mummy blackbird.

Sounds and letters

Sounds and letters
/c/ as c, /t/ as t, /a/ as a
/d/ as d, /g/ as g, /o/ as o
/m/ as m, /n/ as n
/i/ as i, /s/ as s and ss
/u/ as u, /r/ as r
/h/ as h, /l/ as l and ll
/e/ as e, /b/ as b
/f/ as f and ff, /sh/ as sh
/p/ as p, /c/ as k and ck
/ee/ as y, /p/ as pp (+ mm, dd, rr, nn)
/ee/ as ee, ea, e
/w/ as w and wh*, /ch/ as ch
/th/ as th, /ng/ as ng
/tthh/ as th, /v/ as v and ve
/oo/ as oo, u and oul
/j/ as j, /ar/ as ar and a*
/ou/ as ou, ow and ough
/or/ as or, ore, aw and a
/ay/ as ay, a-e, ai
/ie/ as y, ie, i-e, i and igh
/cw/ as qu/, /cs/ as x, /y/ as y
/oa/ as ow, o, oa, oe and o-e
/ooh/ as oo, ew, o
/z/ as z, zz and s, /g/ as, gu and gh
/er/ as er, ur, ir, ear and or
/s/ as c, se and ce
/j/ as g, ge and dge
/l/ as le + tt, gg, bb
/ue/ as ew, u-e and u
/ch/ as tch, /oy/ as oi, oy

Code-Breakers