

Range

The black stork is found across central and eastern Germany.



Where else in the world do you find the black stork?

range

Beak

Different birds have evolved different shaped beaks.



Why do you think the black stork has a long thin beak?

beak

Breeding

A female black stork can lay between two and five eggs in the nest.

The eggs are **incubated** for about 5 weeks.



In the above sentence, what does the word *incubated* mean?

breeding

Flight

Most of the black storks **migrate** to Africa for the winter.



What does *migrate* mean?

flight

Answer card

Beak

A bird that fishes for its food has a long beak to catch the fish.



Answer card

Flight

To migrate means to move from one region to another usually for feeding or breeding.

Black storks are excellent fliers. They fly high in warm currents of air. They keep their head below the line of their bodies, stretching out their neck.

Answer card

Range

The black stork has a large range. It is found in Germany, Eastern Europe and most of Asia.

There are also two small populations: one is on the Spain-Portugal border and the other in southern Africa.

Answer card

Breeding

To incubate means to keep something safe and warm so that it can grow.

The black stork sits on the eggs to keep them warm and bring them to hatching. Both parents share the incubation.

Once hatched, both parents share the feeding of the chicks until they leave at about 3 months old.

Threat

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) uses the scale below to provide information on endangered species.

This one is for the black stork. They are classed as Least Concern.



Looking at the other end of the scale, what is the difference between 'Extinct' and 'Extinct in the wild'?

threat

Habitat

Storks live in marshy wetlands.

The black stork also lives in woodland areas that are beside rivers, lakes or ponds.



Why do the storks live near rivers, lakes or ponds?

habitat

Diet

The black stork mainly eats fish but it will also eat other animals it may find in the rivers, lakes and ponds.



Name some other animals that the black stork may eat.

diet

Answer card

Habitat

The black storks live near rivers, lakes and ponds to fish for their food.

The black storks usually build their nests high in trees so they also like to live in wooded areas.

Answer card

Threat

Being extinct means there are no more of the species left. Extinct in the wild means the species still exist in zoos. Zoos are an important part of conservation.

The black stork is listed as Least Concern in the IUCN Endangered List because it has a large range worldwide.

However numbers have fallen in Europe and the main threat is habitat loss.

Answer card

Diet

The black stork mainly eats fish such as perch and roach.

The black stork also eats frogs, small reptiles, crabs and other invertebrates.

Sometimes it may eat small mammals and birds.