

## Magpie's Journey Home



Slowly, jiggety-hop, the hot, tired Magpie began her long journey home.

The bright sun was beaming down on the sandy desert and poor Magpie felt tired before she had even begun! Her legs ached from all her jiggety-hopping and her mouth was dry and sore. However, a few more hops brought her to the banks of a cool dark stream, flowing between smooth rocks and leafy green bushes. Jumping up onto a stone at the water's edge, Magpie took a long drink of the sparkling water and felt much better. 'I wonder what Dog is doing now?' she thought to herself before carrying on.

Leaving the river behind, Magpie entered a small wood, in which grew all sorts of beautiful trees and bushes. There were tall gum trees and short pine trees, wide oak trees and slender yellow box trees. On many of the branches sat birds with bright feathers, who called cheery greetings to Magpie as she passed.

Beyond the wood and its friendly birds lay a rocky valley. Magpie had to scramble over all sorts of tumbled stones and fallen branches to reach the other side but she pushed on, determined to get back to Dog.

Finally, just as she was beginning to run out of energy, Magpie heard a loud bark quite nearby. Looking up she saw Dog, all sandy brown in the sunshine, standing at the edge of the valley.

'This way, Magpie - I'm up here!' called Dog.

And with one final jiggety-hop, Magpie was home, and reunited with her kind friend.