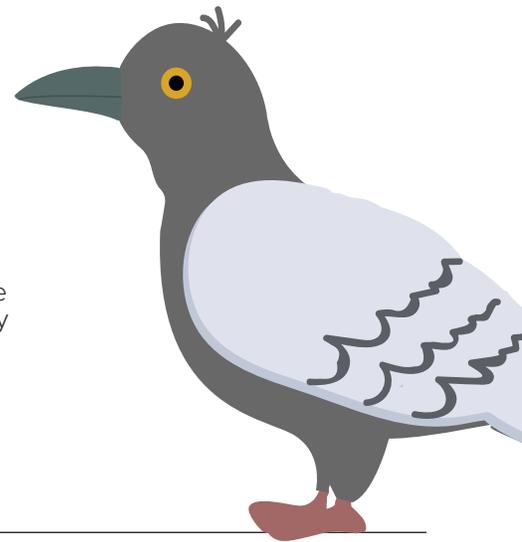


Believe it or not, rock pigeons are a part of the natural world in New York City. You might see one in your own neighborhood!

Did you know?

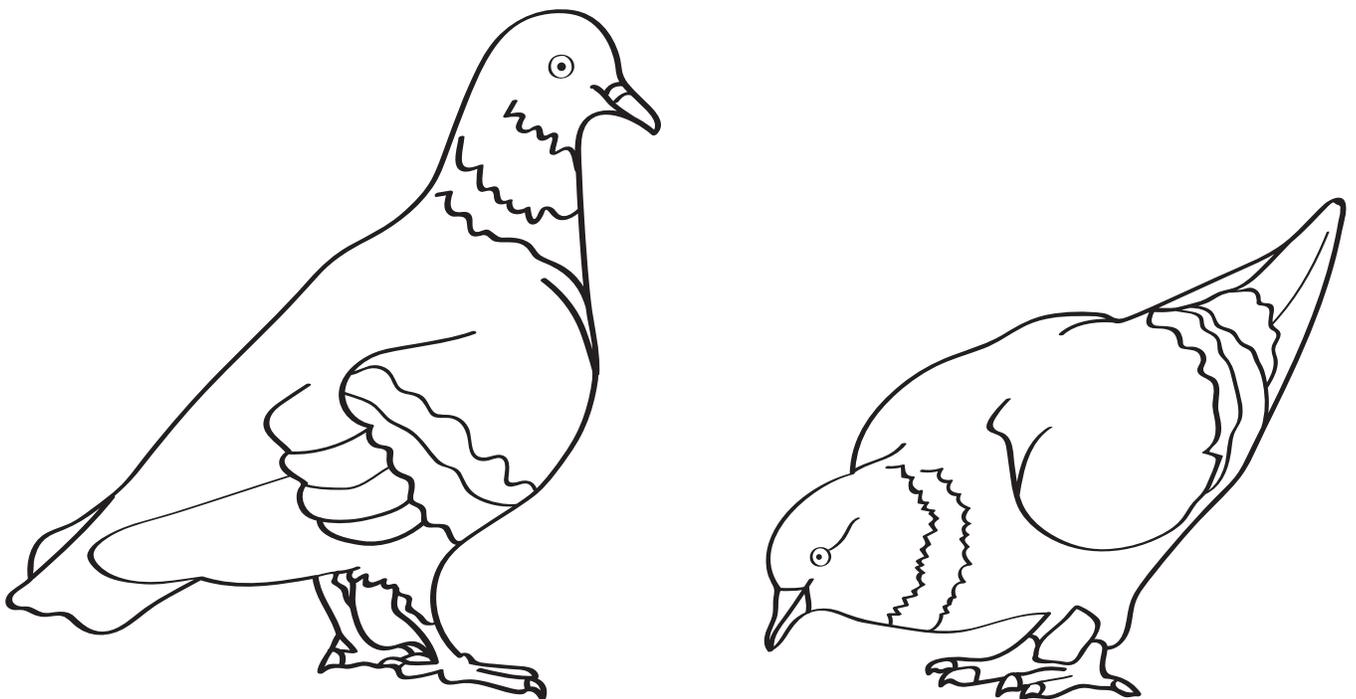
- Pigeons are fantastic flyers. They can turn corners sharply and take off quickly, just like a fighter jet.
- Rock pigeons stay healthy by eating seeds and small insects. Do not feed them. Human food like bread and corn does not provide them with the vitamins they need.
- In more wild areas, rock pigeons use rocky cliffs to build their nests. In cities, they have learned to use buildings instead.
- Baby pigeons are called squabs. They grow to adult size before leaving the nest.
- Pigeons do not get lost. They have an internal compass and can easily find home from any location.



COLOR A PIGEON

Pigeons are unique in many ways. One is their feather colors. This is called plumage. Each pigeon's plumage is different.

Look at pigeons around your neighborhood and notice all of the different colors and patterns. Color these pigeons using colors and patterns you noticed outside.



FREE DRAW

Rock pigeons are great with directions. Are you? Pigeons can use the sun, stars, landmarks, and Earth's magnetic fields just like a map and compass.

**Draw a map showing how you travel between home and school.
What do you use to know where you are while traveling?**

WILD CROSSWORD

Fill in the clues.

ACROSS

3. This is the sound a pigeon makes.
5. In the past and even today, pigeons have been used to carry these.
6. Pigeons use this to make a milk-like substance to feed their young.

DOWN

1. Pigeons belong to the _____ family.
2. A baby pigeon is called a _____.
4. They build _____ on rock cliffs or building ledges.
5. Pigeons have a good _____ and can recognize different human faces and places.

WORD BANK

Crop	Memory
Squab	Messages
Coo	Nests
Dove	

