TEACHER'S GUIDE

Listening activities and suggested answers

Why do birds fly away for winter?

This version: English | Duration: 5:35 (about 6 min)

Published languages: English, Finnish.

Spotify: open.spotify.com/episode/4FPgNSOfqpJ7dGqg1Xksil
YouTube: youtu.be/OY32MQNugl0

Introduce the questions before listening. Students write answers after the whole episode. Discuss their answers as a class or in pairs.

Suggested answers are in italics. Accept students' own wording when the meaning is correct.

1 Why does a swallow leave for winter while a great tit can stay?

The swallow needs flying insects, which become scarce in winter. A great tit can switch to seeds and other food.

2 Why does a migrant bird store fat before its journey?

Fat fuels the flight. It supplies energy during long crossings where the bird cannot stop to eat.

3 How does a V formation help geese?

A goose can use rising air from the wing of the bird ahead and to one side. This reduces the effort of flying.

4 Plan a migrant bird's route

The route includes somewhere to feed or rest and a crossing such as sea or desert. The explanation links recovery or food to the next flight. An exact map is not required.

Teaching tip: Ask what might happen if a useful feeding stop disappeared.