

The Messy Magpie



Now one day, young Morris was struck by surprise
When a gift was thrown down right in front of his eyes.



As it flew from a car, Morris said, "Could it be
That this human has given a present to me?"

He swooped down to pick up the beautiful gift,
Which was hard to manoeuvre and heavy to lift.



He carried it home, though it took him all day,
Then he cleaned up his present to put on display.

He wanted to decorate all that he could
So the next day, he went to the edge of the wood.




He flew to the place where the gift had been dropped,
Where he saw that a family of humans had stopped.

He hopped down to search for his gift on the floor
But he noticed that this time they'd left many more.



Shimmering treasures amongst all the green,
These gifts were the finest that Morris had seen.



Each day, he returned and he couldn't believe
All the wonderful gifts that were left to retrieve.

His tree was soon bursting, with no space for more,
So he started to spread them all out on the floor.

The more of these gifts that his human friends threw,
The more his collection expanded...

...and grew!





Then one day, as Morris was sat in his tree,
Admiring the beauty of all he could see,

He noticed that things were now changing below;
That the plants were all dying and struggling to grow.



The grass was not green like it had been before.
The flowers were wilting, not bright anymore.



His animal friends watched in fear and distress
As their homes and their food were soon lost to the mess.



Messy Magpie- Part 1 questions

1. What could Messy Magpie do to help save his friends?
2. What could be done to stop litter being left by families?
3. Define the word wilting.
4. How do you think Morris' opinion of humans changed throughout the book?
5. What do you think will happen next?