

Pigeon Information 1



Pigeons have been given medals for their bravery in wars.

The weather on the race day can be dangerous to pigeons.

Racing pigeons have bands attached to their legs so you can tell how long they have taken.

In 1918 a pigeon called Cher Ami delivered a message that saved 194 US Soldiers.

Birds are taken from their home lofts and then have to race home.

Racing pigeons are trained by being taken further and further away from their home.

Julius Caesar used pigeons to send messages.



Pigeons have been used in war since ancient times.

Pigeon races can be from 100 km to 1000 km long.

A bird belonging to the queen of England won a race in 1990.

Pigeon Information 2

In Italy, in World War II, a pigeon called GI Joe delivered an emergency message that stopped the Allied air force from accidentally bombing their own men.

It is thought that homing pigeons use a magnetic force to help them find their way home.

In World War II, the United Kingdom used about 250,000 pigeons.

Some people think that homing pigeons use landmarks to find their way home.

Racing pigeons can be at risk from birds of prey.

It is possible that pigeons use the position of the sun to guide them home.

Nearby enemy soldiers tried to shoot down pigeons, knowing that the birds were carrying messages.

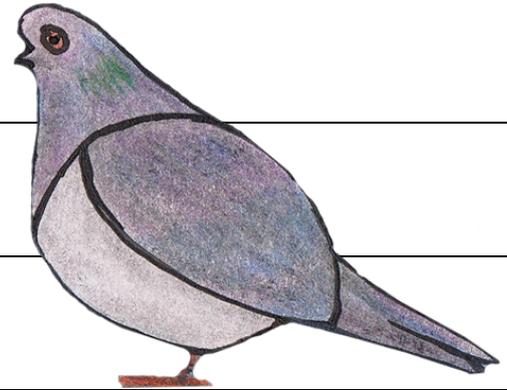
No-one is completely sure how pigeons are able to find their way home.

Pigeons have flown as far as 1,800 km to return to their home.

Most racing pigeons take part in races for three years of their life.

The sport of racing pigeons may go back to 220 AD.

Homing pigeons can get to their homes from long distances away.



Headings

Pigeon Racing

Homing Instinct

Pigeons in wars