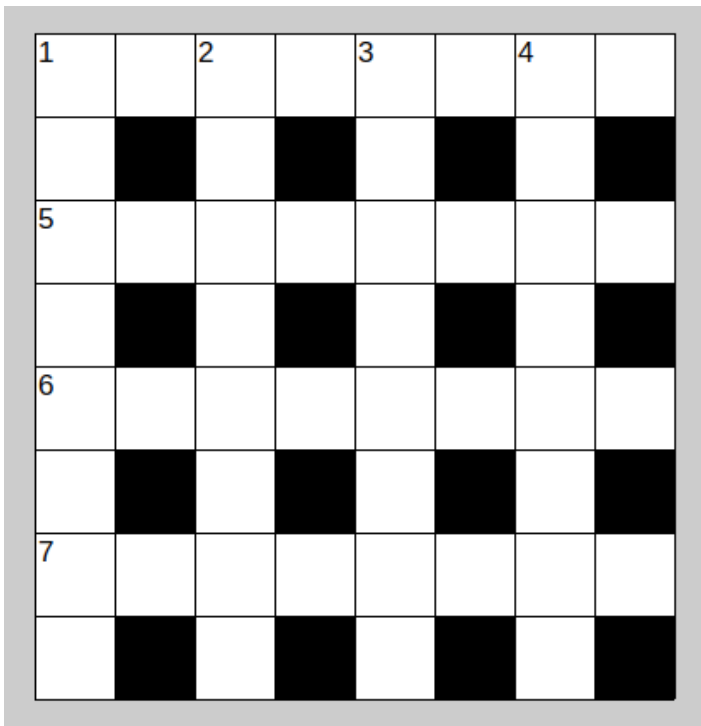


Nature Word Ladder Crossword by Spuggy

Each answer is 8 letters long, but can be split into two 4 letter parts (which may not always be valid words on their own). The clue is then a series of synonyms indicating the various steps in a word ladder linking the first part to the second, changing one letter at a time. So the two halves of BUSY BEES can be linked in a word ladder "BUSY - BUST - BEST - BEET - BEES", which might be clued as "Destroy perfect vegetable" ("bust best beet"). The first and last words are not clued.

The puzzle is nature-themed, and every answer refers to an animal, plant or landscape. The solutions are all shown in photographs below, which are presented in a random order.



ACROSS

1. Plain blue street bay
5. Like sherry? Like porridge? Promise girl pets (dogs) belonging to peaceniks
6. Scoop: asked for naked poet
7. Legendary birds on fields of old Europe

DOWN

1. Part of speech: "Protect fat"
2. Fabric shortage chance
3. Pitt gave birth and wept
4. All of the Germans and that woman from France (Eleanor) like 7? Trust!

