



Video transcript for 'How Does The Internet Work?'

Hello Miss Pigeon. You probably use the internet to coo to your pigeon friends on Tweeter! But have you ever wondered how it really works?

If every bird's nest was a computer, then the internet would be like connecting every bird's nest together so they could all talk to each other.

In computing speak, that's called a **network**. But it's not enough just to connect the nests together. The birds have to agree how they'll use the connections too.

Including how a message will be addressed and how it will get passed on. On the internet, these rules are called **protocols**.

But what if you want to send something that's too big?

You would need to break it up into small pieces to get it there.

The internet works in exactly the same way, but these small pieces are called **packets**.

Each packet includes instructions about how it fits together and details about where it came from and where it is going.

Each computer on the internet has a unique numeric address called an **IP address**, and these can be looked up automatically using a **Domain Name Server**, which is like a giant address book.

When we have an address, the packets get guided through the internet by **routers**, which pass them along like a baton in a relay race.

When the delivery arrives, the instructions explain how to put all the packets back together.

Perfect!

Why do I bother? She hasn't heard, she's just a bird!