



OBSERVE! (20 min.)

Why Do Ducks Have Webbed Feet?

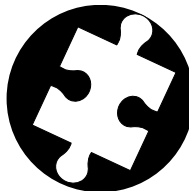


You'll need: A tub, water table, or sink filled with water, large freezer bags, rubber bands, whiteboard, dry erase markers.

Set Up: Fill the tub, water table or sink with water. Have freezer bag and rubber bands handy for use. Make two columns on the board titled "Unwebbed" and "Webbed"

Explanation:

- Have students gather around the water feature. Explain that you want them to put one hand in the water and move it through the water with their fingers splayed (like they would when swimming). Have students discuss observations about what they notice moving their bare hand through the water. Make notes under the "Unwebbed" column on the board.
- Put the freezer bag or bags on children's hands and secure it with the rubber band onto their wrist. Explain that this bagged hand will now act as a "Webbed" foot, like a duck. Have the students each try to move their hand around in the water with the bag secured on their hands, explain that they should be observing how this "Webbed" hand moves the water around and how much more water it can move.
- Have students discuss their observations as to what this "Webbed" hand did with moving water. Did it move more water? Was it harder to push your hand through the water? Why is that? Make notes of their observations on the "Webbed" column of the board. Draw conclusions with students and direct them to these being the reasons why ducks (and other creatures) have adapted to have webbed feet.



CHALLENGE! (15 min.)

What Should We Feed Ducks?

You'll need: Lettuce, grapes cut in half, rice, oats and seeds. Cups for students to make snacks in. A printed or projected copy of the duck feeding poster found below

Set Up: Have these objects out in front of the classroom, with food items in separate containers, Either print and post, or project the duck feeding poster found below.

Explanation:

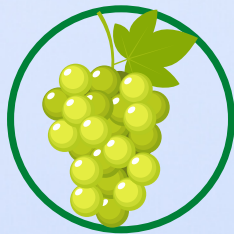
- Ask students if they have fed ducks before. What did they feed them? The answer will probably be bread. Explain to students that it is best if we don't feed the ducks. Feeding ducks bread, chips, and other human "snack food" items are bad because they do not offer the proper nutrition that ducks need and can harm ducks, and pollute waterways.
- Look at the poster together. Point out the foods that are good to feed the ducks. Ask students to confirm and discuss what food they shouldn't be feeding ducks. Include more input which they may have, not contained on the poster.
- Place the containers with the different duck foods on a table. Invite students to use tongs to make their own duck food cups. Then, pretend to be ducks eating healthy snacks.



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What should we feed the ducks?



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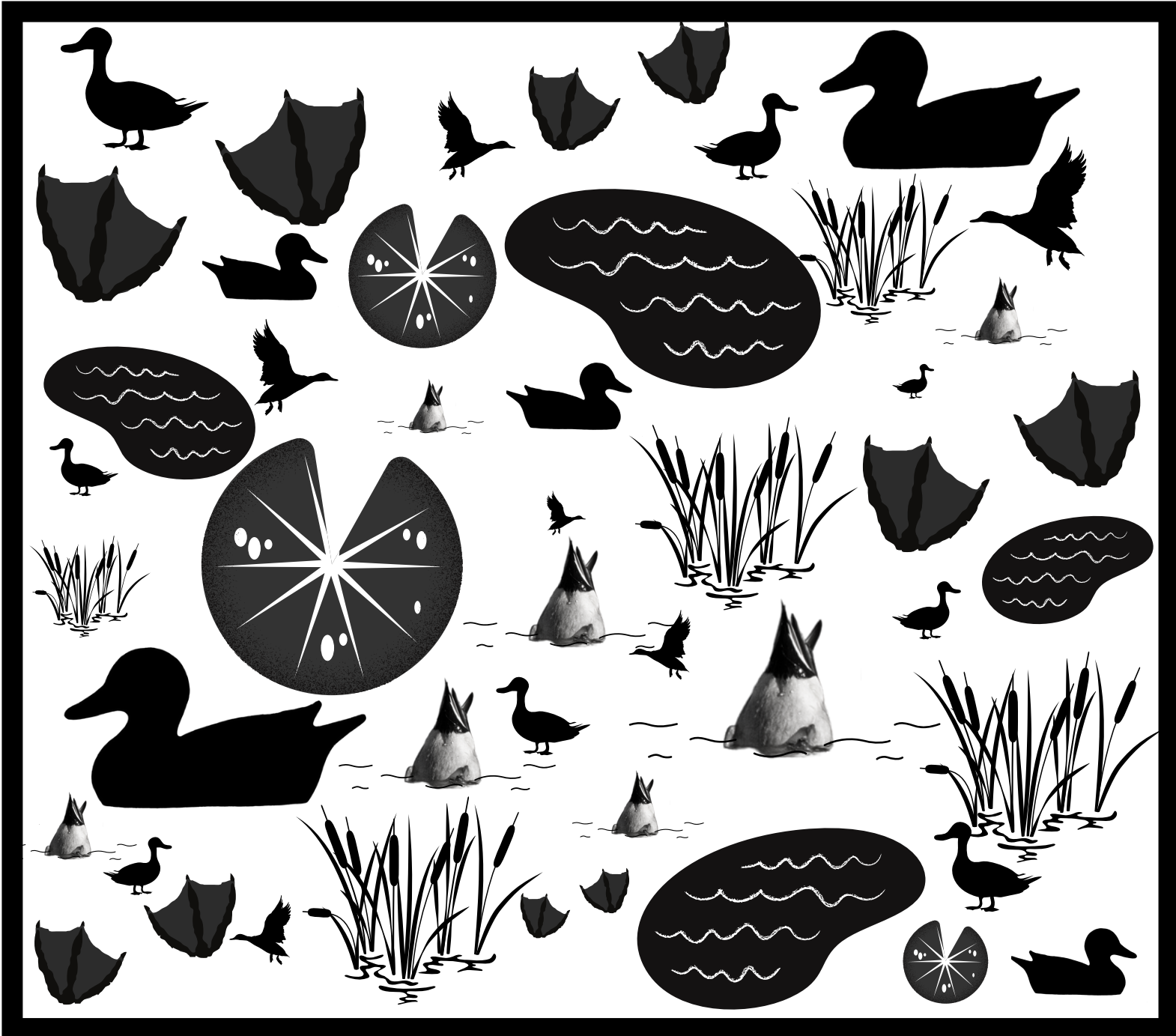
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JK to Grade 3

EYE SPY

Ducks have an excellent sense of sight.
 Use your keen eye sight to find the items listed below.



- 8 ducks standing
- 6 ducks flying
- 5 sets of duck footprints
- 4 ducks floating

- 5 cat tail bunches (plants)
- 4 ponds
- 3 lily pads
- 7 ducks dabbling/tipping



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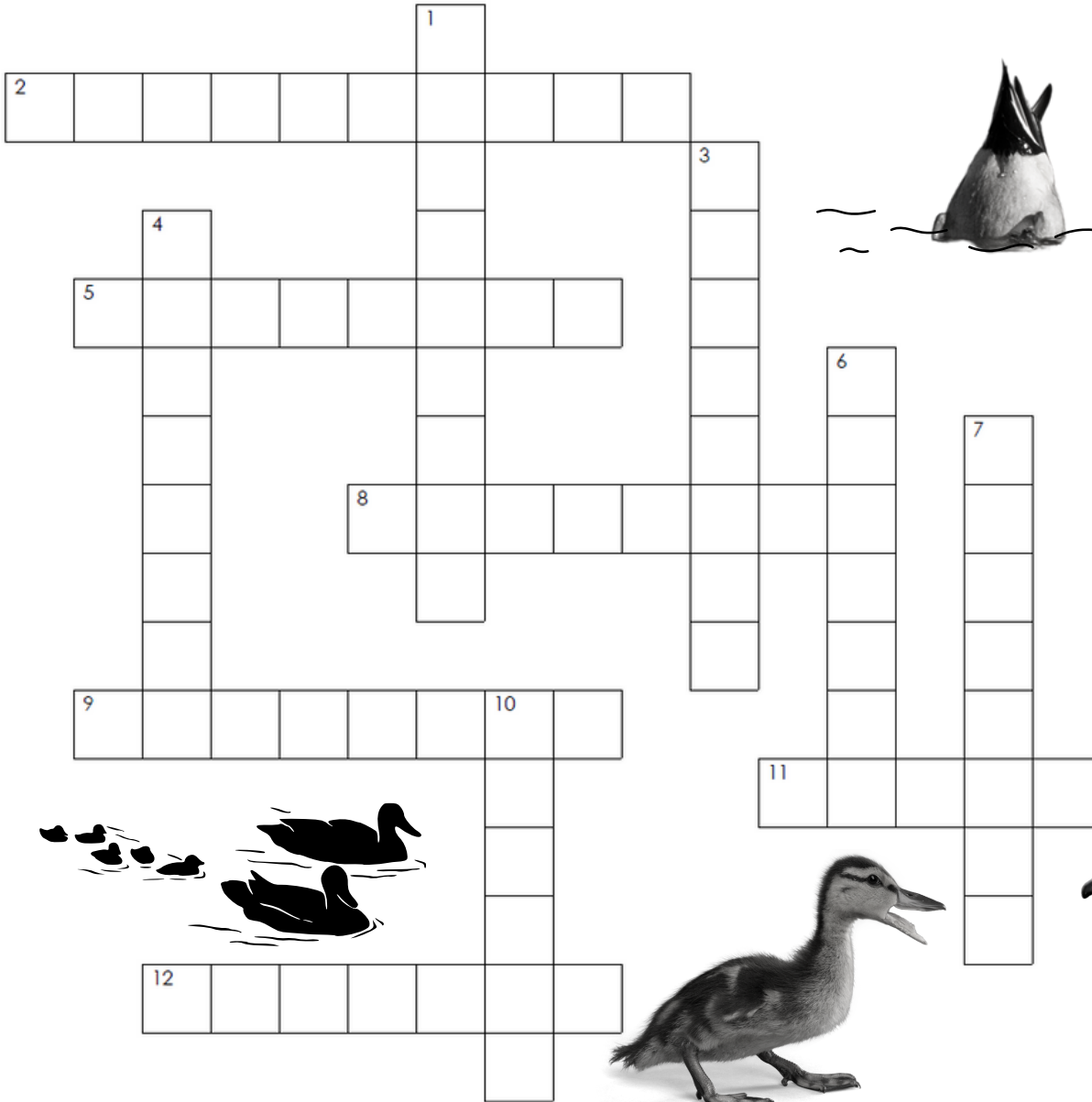
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Grade 4 to 8

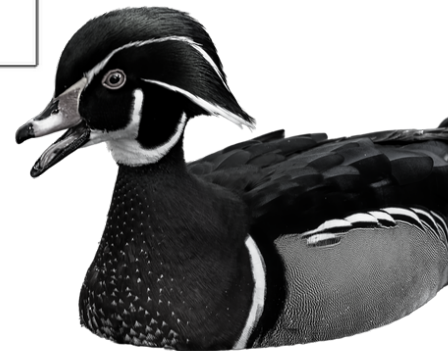
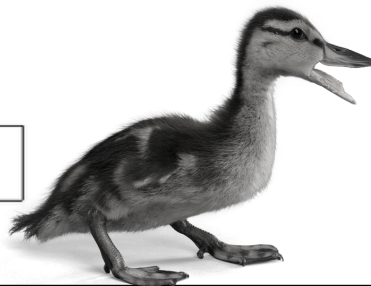
CROSSWORD

There are many interesting things about ducks. See if you can find the proper "ducky" terms!



Word Bank:

- BUOYANT
- MIGRATE
- PISCIVORE
- OMNIVORE
- HATCHING
- LAMELLAE
- PREENING
- WETLANDS
- DIVING
- DECOY
- SERRATION
- DABBLING



Across: →

- 2. RIDGED EDGE, ON A DIVING DUCK'S BILL
- 5. A TYPE OF DUCK THAT "TIPS UP" TO FEED
- 8. THE STRAIGHTENING AND CLEANING OF FEATHERS
- 9. AN AREA OF THE LAND COVERED BY WATER
- 11. SOMETHING INTENDED TO LURE INTO A TRAP
- 12. ABLE OR APT TO STAY AFLOAT

Down: ↓

- 1. A CREATURE THAT EATS ONLY FISH
- 3. A BIRD EMERGING FROM IT'S EGG
- 4. TINY ROWS OF PLATES INSIDE DUCK BILLS
- 6. TO MOVE BETWEEN REGIONS DUE TO THE SEASON
- 7. A CREATURE THAT EATS MEAT AND PLANTS
- 10. A TYPE OF DUCK THAT GOES UNDERWATER TO EAT