



Poultry

Curriculum Links:

- **Science** Living things
Environmental awareness and care
- **Geography** Human environments
- **SPHE** Myself and the wider world

Lesson objectives:

To revise material covered in Module 1. To broaden awareness of poultry by introducing students to the turkey, duck and goose. To compare and contrast the different types of poultry birds.

Teacher guidelines

It is suggested that teachers ensure that students are familiar with the vocabulary and concepts introduced in the previous Module before starting this lesson.

Keywords and concepts introduced in Module 1:

chickens wings hen cock chick flock meat eggs

Chickens are birds and have two legs and two wings. We get meat and eggs from chickens.

Following the introduction to chickens in Module 1, students will now be introduced to the topic of poultry.

Keywords for this lesson:

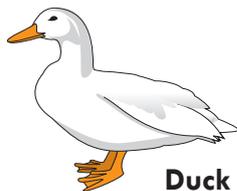
poultry turkey duck goose feathers claw beak bill webbed feet

Poultry

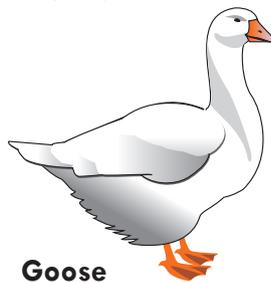
Poultry is the name given to birds that provide us with meat or eggs. The chicken, the **turkey**, the **duck** and the **goose** are the birds most commonly kept by farmers in Ireland. All types of poultry have two wings, two scaly legs and are covered in **feathers**, but there are differences between them.



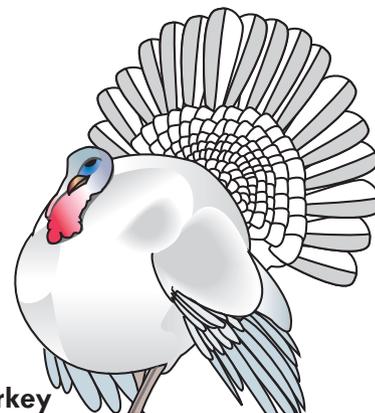
Chicken



Duck



Goose



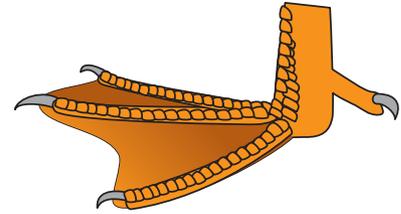
Turkey

Chickens and Turkeys

The chicken and the turkey are similar in two main ways. Firstly they both have feet called **claws**, secondly these claws are very strong for scratching the earth and finding food. They both have sharp **beaks** for pecking at insects and grain.

Ducks and geese

The duck and the goose are also similar to each other. They both have **bills**, which help them to eat their food. The duck's bill allows it to feed in water while the goose's bill allows it to pick up grass. Both the duck and the goose have **webbed feet**, which they need for swimming.



Flying

Most birds use their wings to fly. Chickens and turkeys are exceptional birds as they are not good at flying. They can fly up onto their perches or over a fence but they spend most of their lives on the ground. Ducks and geese can fly very well. If they are being kept in an open-topped pen, they must have the feathers of one wing shortened so that they cannot fly away. Clipping the feathers is like getting a haircut and does not hurt the bird.

Suggested activities:

- Photocopy the activity sheet on page 46
- Discuss poultry and explore what different poultry breeds look like. Encourage students to use correct vocabulary. Ask students to draw labelled pictures that will clearly show the eyes, beak, feet and feathers. If possible, get students to label the different products we get from poultry (eggs and meat)
- Hot seat! Pick students at random and ask them to choose different farm animals. E.g. the chicken cackles, the cock crows, the turkey gobbles, the duck quacks, the goose hisses, the cattle low, the sheep bleats, the sheepdog barks, the pig grunts and the horse neighs
- Movements and adaptations! Discuss the differences and similarities between poultry and humans e.g. claws and webbed feet compared to human hands and feet; beaks and bills compared to human mouths.
- Conduct a bird survey and allow students to find and discuss the similarities and differences between the various birds on the farm and around their school/home. Tally the class survey and see if there is a trend
- Examine feathers in class. Research and list the types of birds that fly and those that don't. Discuss the possible reasons for this, e.g. size Discuss the migration of certain birds, e.g. the swallow
- Discuss the fact that people, animals and plants depend on one another and that we rely on farming for food (see 'The Irish farmer', page 2)
- Movements and Adaptations: Examine feathers in class and how they help birds fly. Create a Venn diagram and label as 'common', 'uncommon' and 'similar'
- For extension material, see Modules 3 and 4

Learning outcomes:

At the end of this lesson, students should understand the word poultry and know the most common types of poultry in Ireland. They should also be able to compare and contrast the chicken, turkey, duck and goose.

Additional resources:

- www.agriaware.ie



Poultry

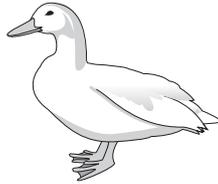
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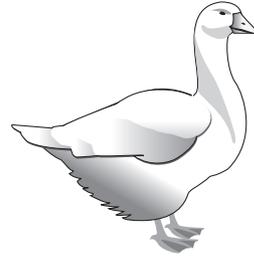
1 Use the following words to label the poultry below: turkey, goose, duck, chicken



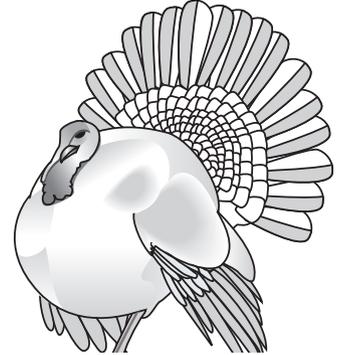
c _____



d _____



g _____



t _____

2 Put these words in the right place – swim, food, claws, feet

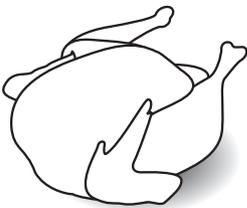
Chickens and turkeys have _ _ _ _ . They use them for scratching the earth to find _ _ _ _ . Ducks and geese have webbed _ _ _ _ . These help them to _ _ _ _ .

3 We get lots of things from poultry. Colour in the pictures below and match them to the right word.



Did you know?

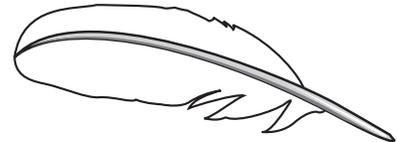
Eggs can be used to make pasta and cakes!



Egg



Feather



Meat

* To be used with teacher guidelines, page 12