

Something Told the Wild Geese by Rachel Field. Print. Read the poem, Color the pictures.

p.1.

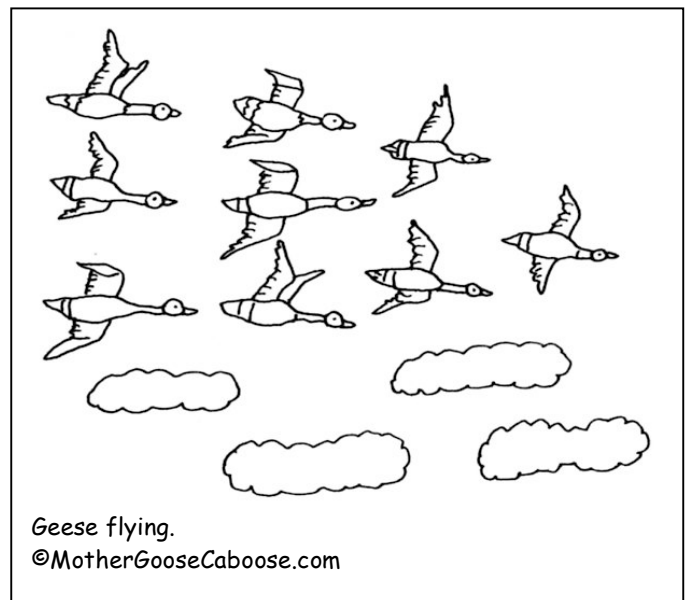
NAME _____

Something Told The Wild Geese

Something told the wild geese
It was time to go,
Though the fields lay golden
Something whispered, 'Snow!
Leaves were green and stirring,
Berries lustre-glossed,
But beneath warm feathers
Something cautioned, "Frost!"

All the sagging orchards
Steamed with amber spice,
But each wild beast stiffened
At remembered ice.
Something told the wild geese
It was time to fly -
Summer sun was on their wings,
Winter in their cry.

- Rachel Field (1894-1942).
American novelist, poet, writer,
& author of children's fiction.



She is best known for her Newbery Medal-winning novel for young adults, "Hitty, Her First Hundred Years", published in 1929.

Something Told The Wild Geese by Rachel Field. Definition and

Facts. Print. Study the definition and facts.

p.2.

Facts About Geese

The goose is a large waterfowl. It is so large that its only bird enemy is an eagle. Most geese summer in far northern Canada or the Arctic, and winter in southern United States and Mexico. Geese are known for their seasonal migrations, webbed feet that help them swim, preening (waterproofing its feathers), and a distinctive honking sound. They migrate in a "V" formation which conserves energy for the long trip ahead and keeps track of each bird in the group. Some might not migrate if there are open waters and a good food supply for winter.

Geese eat by grazing on grasses, plants and grains, or dipping and dabbling in the water for water plants. Geese usually feed in and nest near water. The female builds a nest in a hollow in the ground using nearby materials and soft down from her breast for a lining. She lays as many as ten eggs that the male (*gander*) helps incubate. Goose down and feathers are used in pillows and quilts. Geese mate for life. Pairs stay together as long as both are alive and well. Wild geese may live as long as 30 years. A female is called a goose and a male, a gander. Babies are called goslings. A group of geese is called a flock.

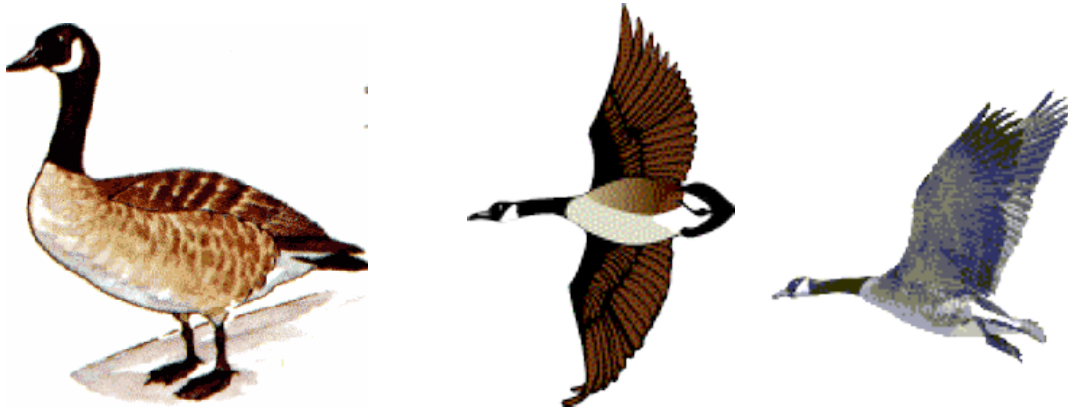
Definition: goose - *n.* A large waterfowl with a long neck and webbed feet, known for its seasonal migrations and a distinctive honking sound. A female is called a goose and a male, a gander. Babies are called goslings. Subfamily: *Anserinae*.

Goose Pictures:

p.3.

<http://www.saskschools.ca/~gregory/animals/cg/cg8.html>

<http://www.saskschools.ca/~gregory/animals/cg/cg4.html>



The goose's legs are set forward so it is able to walk better on land than ducks and swans.



courtesy Canadian Wildlife Services

Geese migrate in a "V" formation which conserves energy for the long trip ahead and keeps track of each bird in the group.

Geese have different sounds to communicate (about 13 different calls) honk (when flying), cluck or cackle (when feeding), hiss (when angry) They also communicate by body movements.

Definition and Facts. Print. Fill in the blanks. p.4.

NAME _____

Facts About Geese

1. The goose is a large _____.
2. It is so large that its only bird enemy is an _____.
3. Most geese summer in far northern _____ or the Arctic, and winter in southern _____ and Mexico.
4. Geese are known for their seasonal migrations, _____ feet, preening (waterproofing its _____), and a distinctive _____ sound.
5. They migrate in a _____ which conserves _____ for the long trip ahead and keeps track of each _____ in the group.
6. Some might not _____ if there are open waters and a good _____ supply for _____.
7. Geese eat by grazing on _____, plants and grains, or dipping and dabbling in the water for _____.
8. They usually feed in and nest near _____.

Definition and Facts. Print. Fill in the blanks. p.5.

NAME _____

7. The female builds a nest in a _____ in the _____ using nearby materials and soft _____ from her _____ for a lining.

8. She lays as many as _____ eggs that the _____ (*gander*) helps incubate.

9. Goose down and feathers are used in _____ and _____.

10. Geese mate for _____. Pairs stay together as long as both are _____ and _____.

11. Wild geese may live as long as _____ years.

12. A female is called a _____

13. and a male, a _____.

14. Babies are called _____.

15. A group of geese is called a _____.

