



Thinking Guide Activities – Expository

Title of the Selection: Let's Talk Turkey

Teaching Band Grades 3 - 5

Genre: Nonfiction – Informational, Magazine Article

The selection and Expository Thinking Guide are provided. The Expository Thinking Guide identifies the topic, central idea of the selection, and the main idea of each paragraph. In addition, the main ideas are clustered by color code to develop a meaningful summary.

- ★ Let's Talk Turkey Selection
- ★ Let's Talk Turkey Expository Thinking Guide
- ★ Color-Coded Expository Thinking Guide and Summary

The Expository Thinking Guide is used to develop other fun and interactive activities. Fisher Reyna Education offers the following activities and test items:

- ★ Matching Pre-Reading Activity
- ★ Matching Activity Part 1
- ★ Matching Activity Part 2
- ★ Thinking Guide Cloze 1st Letter Activity
- ★ Thinking Guide Cloze Blank Activity
- ★ Thinking Guide Write Main Ideas Activity
- ★ Vocabulary Activity
- ★ Marked Selection Activity
- ★ Test Questions and Answer Key



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Expository Thinking Guide
Content-Based Topic

Title of Selection Let's Talk Turkey

Topic of Selection	Turkeys
Central Idea (Main Idea of Selection)	Interesting information about Turkeys (implied)
Main Idea of Each Paragraph	1. Introduction to turkeys
	2. Birth
	3. Predators
	4. What turkeys eat
	5. Distinguishing male turkeys
	6. Turkey roost
	7. Population near extinction
	8. Turkey populations have made a comeback.
	9. Turkey Trivia: Facts about Turkeys
	10. Turkey diagram: Label the turkey

Color-Coded Thinking Guide and Summary
Clustering and Summary

Topic of Selection	Turkeys
Central Idea (Main Idea of Selection)	Interesting information about Turkeys (implied)
Main Idea of Each Paragraph	1. Introduction to turkeys
	2. Birth
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Color-Coded Summary

Clustering used to produce a meaningful summary



The main ideas are clustered by color-code to develop a meaningful summary. The statements provided in the Thinking Guide and summary paragraph serve as only ONE way to paraphrase the story elements for this selection.

Turkeys are interesting animals. They are born in the summer. As they grow, they face a number of carnivorous predators. Since turkeys are herbivores, they eat plants. Certain physical features help distinguish young male turkeys called jakes from mature male turkeys called toms. Turkeys were considered almost extinct, but thanks to the efforts of many people, the turkey population has greatly increased. There are many interesting facts and even some trivia to learn about turkeys.

Matching Pre-Reading Activity



Directions and Activity Variations

Students may work individually or with a partner. Teacher shows the titles, subtitles and photos with captions as a pre-reading activity to the Matching Activity.



by Helen Holdsworth

Turkey Trivia



...when poults are born, they do not hang out in the nest for long? They have to get out and get moving or they might get eaten! This behavior, which is common to ground-nesting birds like turkey and quail, is referred to as precocial (pre - ko - shul).

...Benjamin Franklin, one of the founding fathers of our country, wanted the turkey to be named our national bird? No one else agreed with him, so the eagle became our national bird.

...turkeys (and all birds) have hollow bones? This reduces their weight to make it easier to fly, although turkeys do not fly all that much.



Photo by D.K. Langford

Label the Tom Turkey

Read the definitions below, then label the turkey diagram.

BEARD - Male turkeys (and a few females) have a bundle of long, thin, dark feather on the chest, called a beard.

BILL - Turkeys have a hard, pointed bill (also called the beak), which they use to get food. They eat insects, worms, fruit, seeds, acorns, grains, slugs, snails, and many other foods

CARUNCLE - The reddish-pink fleshy growth on the head and upper neck of the turkey.

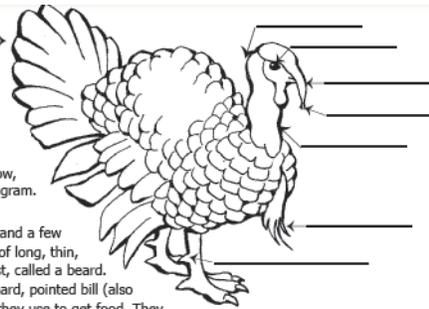
EYE - Turkeys have two eyes and excellent vision.

SNOOD - The flap of skin that grows from the base of the turkey's bill and hangs over the bill.

SPUR ON LEG - Male turkeys have a spike above each foot.

TAIL FAN - The long, colorful tail feathers of the turkey.

WATTLE - Bright red skin that hangs from a turkey's neck.





Matching Activity Part 1

Directions and Activity Variations

Students may work individually or with a partner.

1. Cut apart the main ideas and give one main idea to individual student or partners. Teacher reads the selection one paragraph at a time. Students identify when they have the matching main idea.
2. Provide the selection and cut-apart main ideas. Students read the selection and match cut-apart main ideas to paragraphs in the selection.
3. Provide cut-apart selection and cut-apart main ideas. Students match cut-apart paragraphs to the cut-apart main ideas.



**...And work with
Main ideas!**

1. Introduction to turkeys
2. Birth
3. Predators
4. What turkeys eat
5. Distinguishing male turkeys
6. Turkey roost
7. Population near extinction
8. Turkey populations have made a comeback.
9. Turkey Trivia: Facts about Turkeys
10. Turkey diagram: Label the turkey



Matching Activity Part 2

Do turkeys purr? Believe it or not, they really do! Turkeys actually have a great vocabulary. They yelp, gobble, cluck, purr, and cut.

Turkeys are born in the summer. A hen will lay 10-12 eggs in a nest and incubate, or sit on them, for 28 days. When they are born, the baby turkeys are known as poults.

Turkeys, and their eggs, are a favorite prey (or food) for many different animals. Animals that eat other animals are known as predators. Turkey predators include skunks, coyotes, and raccoons. Turkeys use their sense to escape or hide from predators, but they cannot smell very well, so they rely heavily on their sight and hearing.

What do turkeys eat? They do not have teeth, so that tells you they do not eat meat (carnivore). Their beak allows them to primarily eat seeds, acorns, berries, and greens (like grass). Animals like this are called herbivores. Poults eat a lot of insects when they are little.

As turkeys grow and mature, certain physical characteristics will help you distinguish the younger from the older. You can tell the difference between a young male turkey, called a jake, and an older male turkey (a tom) by comparing the length of their beards, the length of their spurs, or by the shape of their tail feathers when fanned out. A tom's tail feathers will be even all across the top. A jake's feathers will have some shorter and some longer.

Have you heard of a turkey roost? Basically, a roost is where the turkeys sleep at night. Generally, they will sleep in a big group up in trees near a creek or river. This helps protect them from predators.

When the Europeans first came to what is now the United States, there were many, many turkeys. As more people came here, more turkeys were hunted for food and for their feathers. As farming expanded, there was less and less habitat for the turkeys. By the 1930s, turkeys were considered almost extinct, with an estimated population of 30,000.

But thanks to the efforts of private landowners, volunteers, and state and federal wildlife agencies, turkeys have made an incredible comeback! In areas where turkeys are plentiful, they are trapped and then transported to areas that have the proper habitat but no turkeys. It is a big job and takes money, time, and human resources. But dedication and commitment have given us a current estimated population of more than 7,000,000 turkeys! Today, there are wild turkeys in every state except Alaska.

Expository Thinking Guide
Cloze – 1st Letter Activity

Title of the Selection Let's Talk Turkey



Directions

As selection is read, complete the words in the blanks with the first letter given.

Topic of Selection	T_____
Central Idea (Main Idea of Selection)	Interesting i_____ about Turkeys (implied)
Main Idea of Each Paragraph	1. I_____ to turkeys
	2. B_____
	3. P_____
	4. What turkeys e_____
	5. Distinguishing m_____ turkeys
	6. Turkey r_____
	7. Population near e_____
	8. Turkey populations have made a c_____.
	9. Turkey T_____ : Facts about Turkeys
	10. Turkey d_____ : Label the turkey

Expository Thinking Guide Cloze – Blank Activity

Title of the Selection Let's Talk Turkey _____



Directions

As selection is read, fill in the blanks.

Topic of Selection	_____
Central Idea (Main Idea of Selection)	Interesting _____ about Turkeys (implied)
Main Idea of Each Paragraph	1. _____ to turkeys
	2. _____
	3. _____
	4. What turkeys _____
	5. Distinguishing _____ turkeys
	6. Turkey _____
	7. Population near _____
	8. Turkey populations have made a _____.
	9. Turkey _____: Facts about Turkeys
	10. Turkey _____: Label the turkey

Write Main Ideas Activity

Title of the Selection Let's Talk Turkey

Genre: Nonfiction – Informational, Magazine Article



Directions

Students take notes that include topic, central idea of the selection, and main idea of each paragraph. Paragraphs with implied main ideas increase the level of difficulty with this activity.

Topic of Selection	
Central Idea (Main Idea of Selection)	
Main Idea of Each Paragraph	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.
	7.
	8.
	9.
	10.

Let's Talk Turkey

Vocabulary – Using Context Clues

Directions: Display the following vocabulary list. Ask the students to define the words they recognize. Then read Let's Talk Turkey as the students listen for these words. After hearing one of the listed words in context, ask students to give its definition. The words are listed in the order in which they appear in the article.

Note: This vocabulary activity should be used after students have read the article.

1. cut
2. incubate
3. poults
4. prey
5. heavily
6. mature
7. distinguish
8. fanned
9. expanded
10. proper
11. bill
12. caruncle
13. snood
14. wattle

Marked Selection Activity

Title of the Selection Let's Talk Turkey

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Directions

Students use marking strategies and complete the thinking guide as they read the selection. A marked selection is provided.

Marking codes are used to demonstrate comprehension strategies. Marking codes are necessary for the students to have a system for analyzing or processing what they read. This system of showing your work while working independently on a reading comprehension selection allows teachers to make effective instructional decisions. When the staff works as a team to provide instruction and monitor progress, it is important for everyone to require the same set of marking codes.

Students who consistently score 95% or better may not be required to show their work.

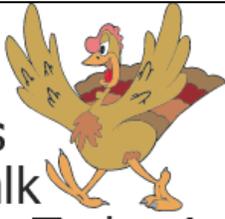


For more information on marking codes and comprehension strategies see our book titled,
Solution For Success: Reading
Lois Fisher & Rachel Reyna

Central Idea: Interesting Information

Let's Talk Turkey!

by Helen Holdsworth



Topic

Do turkeys purr? Believe it or not, they really do! Turkeys actually have a great vocabulary. They yelp, gobble, cluck, purr, and cut.

Turkeys are **born** in the summer. A hen will lay 10-12 eggs in a nest and incubate, or sit on them, for 28 days. When they are born, the baby turkeys are known as poults.

Turkeys, and their eggs, are a favorite prey (or food) for many different animals. Animals that eat other animals are **known as predators**. Turkey **predators** include skunks, coyotes, and raccoons. Turkeys use their senses to escape or hide from predators, but they cannot smell very well, so they rely heavily on their sight and hearing.

What do turkeys eat? They do not have teeth, so that tells you they do not eat meat (carnivore). Their beak allows them to primarily eat seeds, acorns, berries, and greens (like grass). Animals like this are called herbivores. Poults eat a lot of insects when they are little.



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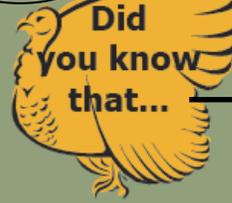
3 As turkeys grow and mature, certain physical characteristics will help you distinguish the younger from the older. You can tell the difference between a young male turkey, called a jake, and an older male turkey (a tom) by comparing the length of their beards, the length of their spurs, or by the shape of their tail feathers when fanned out. **A tom's tail feathers will be even all across the top.** A jake's feathers will have some shorter and some longer.

Have you heard of a **turkey roost**? Basically, a roost is where the turkeys sleep at night. Generally, they will sleep in a big group up in trees near a creek or river. This helps protect them from predators.

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Turkey Trivia



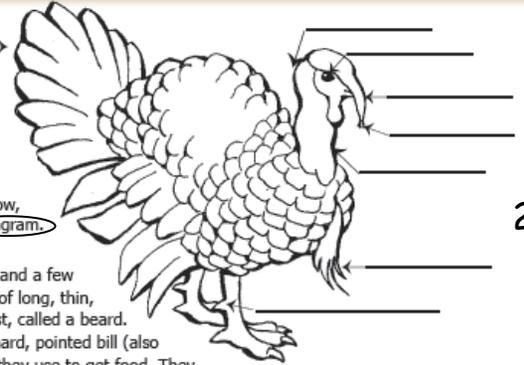
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...turkeys (and all birds) have hollow bones? This reduces their weight to make it easier to fly, although turkeys do not fly all that much.

Label the Tom Turkey

Read the definitions below, then label the turkey **diagram**.



- BEARD** - Male turkeys (and a few females) have a bundle of long, thin, dark feather on the chest, called a beard.
- BILL** - Turkeys have a hard, pointed bill (also called the beak), which they use to get food. They eat insects, worms, fruit, seeds, acorns, grains, slugs, snails, and many other foods
- CARUNCLE** - The reddish-pink fleshy growth on the head and upper neck of the turkey.
- EYE** - Turkeys have two eyes and excellent vision.
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- SPUR ON LEG** - Male turkeys have a spike above each foot.
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Test Questions

- 1 The photograph in the selection shows –
- A a turkey on a farm
 - B a turkey hen
 - C a tom
 - D a turkey roost
-
- 2 The diagram in the section “Label the Tom Turkey” is included in the article to –
- A show the difference between toms and jakes
 - B provide information about the body of the turkey
 - C explain why toms are difficult to catch
 - D show how jakes grow to become toms
-
- 3 Which words in paragraph 5 help the reader understand the meaning of mature?
- A *certain physical characteristics*
 - B *will help you distinguish*
 - C *tell the difference*
 - D *as turkeys grow*

4 Read these sentences from paragraph 1.

Do turkeys purr? Believe it or not, they really do!

The author uses this sentence to –

- A help the reader understand how turkeys make sounds
 - B introduce the reader to an interesting fact
 - C explain why turkeys purr
 - D offer a reason why turkeys talk
-

5 The author organizes the information in the article by –

- A comparing the characteristics of young male turkeys and older male turkeys
 - B describing male turkeys as they grow
 - C explaining interesting facts about turkeys
 - D stating reasons wild turkeys have grown in numbers
-

6 What can the reader conclude about landowners, volunteers, and wildlife agencies?

- A Landowners, volunteers, and wildlife agencies work with farmers and people.
- B The dedication and hard work of landowners, volunteers, and wildlife agencies help keep animal populations from extinction.
- C Increasing turkey populations continues to worry landowners, volunteers, and wildlife agencies.
- D It takes a lot of money to pay landowners, volunteers, and wildlife agencies.

Question and Answer Strategies

- 1** The photograph in the selection shows –
- A** a turkey on a farm
 - B** a turkey hen
 - C** a tom
 - D** a turkey that can gobble
-
- 2** The diagram in the section “Label the Tom Turkey” is included in the article to –
- A** show the difference between toms and jakes
 - B** provide information about the body of the turkey
 - C** explain why toms are difficult to catch
 - D** show how jakes grow to become toms
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5 The author organizes the information in the article by -

- A comparing the characteristics of young male turkeys and older male turkeys
 - B describing male turkeys as they grow
 - C listing interesting facts about turkeys
 - D stating reasons wild turkeys have grown in numbers
-

6 What can the reader conclude about [landowners, volunteers, and wildlife agencies]?

- E Landowners, volunteers, and wildlife agencies work with farmers and people.
- F The dedication and hard work of landowners, volunteers, and wildlife agencies help keep animal populations from extinction.
- G Increasing turkey populations continues to worry landowners, volunteers, and wildlife agencies.
- H It takes a lot of money to pay landowners, volunteers, and wildlife agencies.

Note: The evidence used to support correct answers may not be the only supporting evidence.

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills
English Language Arts and Reading
Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Expository Text

3.13 Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:

- (A) identify the details or facts that support the main idea;
- (B) draw conclusions from the facts presented in text and support those assertions with textual evidence;
- (C) identify explicit cause and effect relationships among ideas in texts; and
- (D) use text features (e.g., bold print, captions, key words, italics) to locate information and make and verify predictions about contents of text.

4.13 Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:

- (A) identify the details or facts that support main idea
- (B) draw conclusions from the facts presented in text and support those assertions with textual evidence;
- (C) identify cause and effect relationships among ideas in texts; and
- (D) use text features to locate information and make and verify predictions about contents of text

5.11 Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:

- (A) summarize the main ideas and supporting details in a text in ways that maintain meaning and logical order;
- (B) determine the facts in text and verify them through established methods;
- (C) analyze how the organizational pattern of a text (e.g., cause-and-effect, compare-and-contrast, sequential order, logical order, classification schemes) influences the relationships among the ideas;
- (D) use multiple text features and graphics to gain an overview of the contents of text and to locate information; and
- (E) synthesize and make logical connections between ideas within a text and across two or three texts representing similar or different genres.