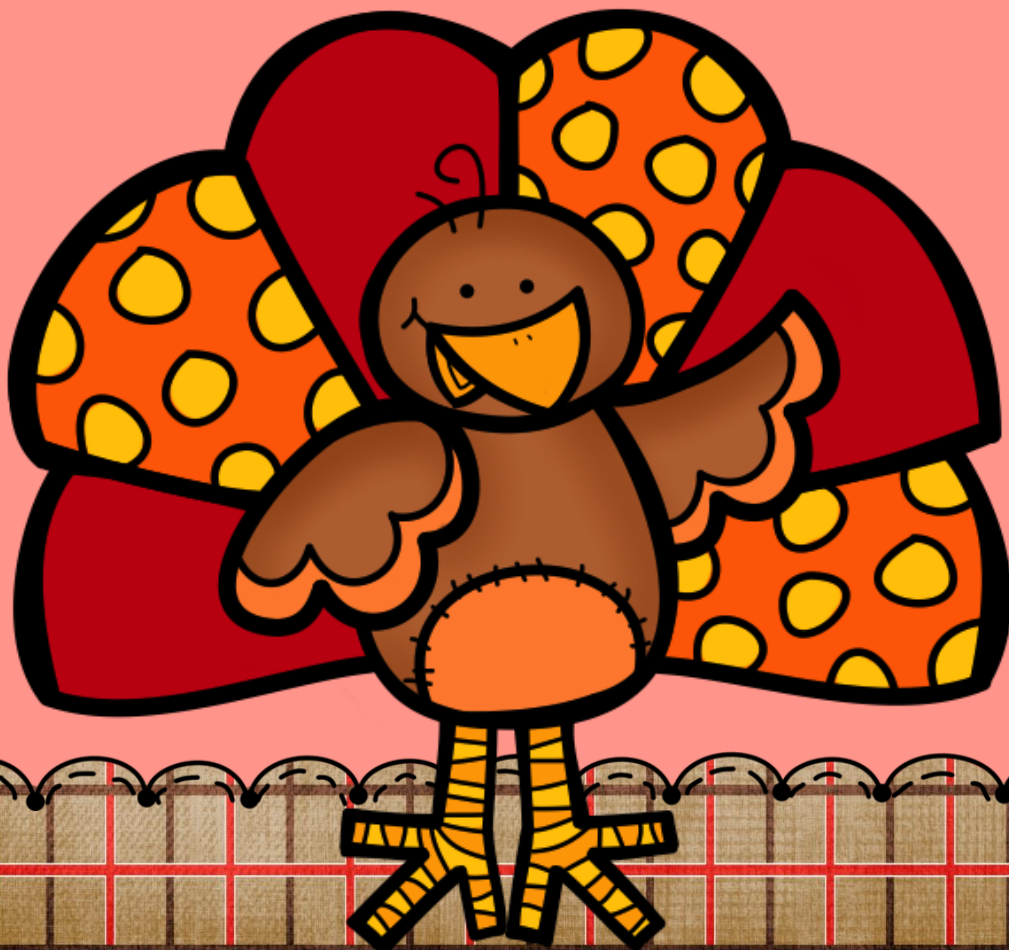




# Non-Fiction Task Cards *November*



Dear Educator,

Thank you for downloading this product. I'm excited to share this monthly set of non-fiction skills and strategies task cards with you! These were designed in a "Read Around The Room" format to keep your students actively engaged while gaining important reading practice. You'll find a KWL chart for activating prior knowledge, a "Fact File" for building background , and 6 task cards to read and answer questions. I recommend laminating them, as well as the answer sheet to make them longer lasting. You may wish to pair students up to make this a more cooperative learning activity, or just use them in a small group. Use the writing activity as an culminating activity, or for adding to interactive notebooks.

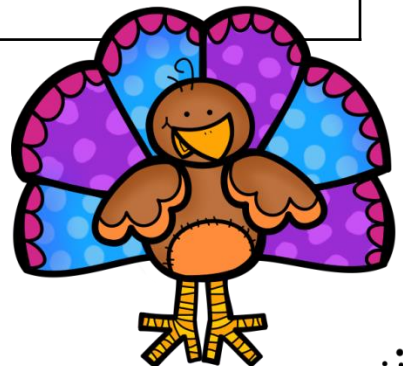
I strive to create quality products in my store. Please feel free to message me with any questions or concerns you may have regarding this any other product.

This is a monthly set of Non-Fiction task cards. Check back each month for the latest set!

Be sure to follow [my store](#) to learn about new products, sales, and freebies. Thanks again!

-Emily Gibbons, [The Reading Tutor/OG](#)

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 4         | KWL Chart                                |
| 5-6       | “Turkey Talk” Fact File<br>and Questions |
| 7         | Task Card Directions                     |
| 8-10      | Non-Fiction Task Cards                   |
| 11        | Recording Sheet                          |
| 12        | Answer Sheet                             |
| 13        | Turkey Facts Flip-Flap                   |
| 14-<br>16 | Writing Prompt Materials                 |
| 17        | Credits                                  |



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

What I know...

Fill in the KWL  
Chart about  
Turkeys.

What I learned...

What I want to know...





# Fact File: Turkey Talk



## Fast facts:

- Wild turkeys sleep in trees to stay safe from predators.
- Only male turkeys will gobble.
- They have nearly 270 degree vision.
- Wild turkeys were once nearly extinct.

When you think about a turkey, what's the first thing that comes to your mind? Is it Thanksgiving dinner, or something else? Wild turkeys are similar to the turkeys we eat, but there are a few differences. They usually weigh less and can fly more easily and faster than domestic, or farm raised turkeys.

Wild turkeys are omnivores, or plant and meat eaters. They may eat acorns, nuts, seeds, and berries, as well as small amphibians and reptiles. You'll find them all over woodland areas, near swamps and grasslands. At night, they prefer to sleep up in the trees to protect themselves from predators.

The wild turkey nearly became extinct in the early 1900s due to overhunting and loss of habitat. Thousands of trees were cut down to make way for new roads and homes, cities, towns and farmland. Thankfully, humans worked hard to restore, or bring back the population. The United States now has over 7 million wild turkeys. This large fowl can now be seen in nearly 49 states. Can you guess which state you wouldn't?

ANSWER: ALASKA

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Questions For "Turkey Talk"

Answer in complete sentences.

1. Which turkey does NOT gobble, the male or the female?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is one difference between a wild turkey and a domestic turkey? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. According to paragraph 2, why do turkeys sleep in trees?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why were turkeys nearing extinction in the early 1900s?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What is the author's purpose for this article? How do you know?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# **Task Card Directions**

**Materials: task cards, recording sheet, pencil**

- 1. Take one card at a time.  
Read it carefully.**
- 2. Read the question.**
- 3. Think about what the question is asking you to do.**
- 4. Using information from the card, answer the question in a complete sentence on your recording sheet.**



1. Wild turkeys are large birds, found mostly in North America. The males are called toms or gobblers. The females are called hens. Their babies are called poults. A group of turkeys is called a rafter or a flock.

Question:

What are 4 plural nouns?



2. A male wild turkey's head has no feathers. It has caruncles, or fleshy bumps on the top of its head. The red flap right under a turkey's chin is called a wattle.

Question:

What are caruncles?

Where is the wattle?





### 3. Read the following letter from Benjamin Franklin to his daughter.

"For my own part I wish the Bald Eagle had not been chosen the Representative of our Country. He is a Bird of bad moral Character. He does not get his Living honestly. You may have seen him perched on some dead Tree near the River, where, too lazy to fish for himself, he watches the Labour of the Fishing Hawk; and when that diligent Bird has at length taken a Fish, and is bearing it to his Nest for the Support of his Mate and young Ones, the Bald Eagle pursues him and takes it from him.

...For the Truth the Turkey is in Comparison a much more respectable Bird, and withal a true original Native of America . . . He is besides, though a little vain & silly, a Bird of Courage, and would not hesitate to attack a Grenadier of the British Guards who should presume to invade his Farm Yard with a red Coat on."

- Benjamin Franklin, 1784

**Question:** Why did Franklin NOT want the bald eagle for our national bird?

4. A male turkey gobbles, but a female doesn't. A gobble can be heard by humans from almost a mile away. Males gobble to attract females. Wild turkeys can make as many as 30 different bird calls.

**Question:** Which two words make up the contraction doesn't?  
Write an interrogative sentence using the word doesn't.



5. A female wild turkey may weigh from 5-12 pounds, while a male can weigh from 11-24 pounds. Wild turkeys have strong legs and can run up to 25 mph, and fly up to 55 mph at top speed.

**Question:**

Write down two 2-syllable words.



6. A female turkey may lay up to 18 eggs at a time. When a poult, or baby turkey is born it already has feathers. It is able to get out of the nest, walk and search for food within a day.

**Question:** Infer: Why is it probably a good thing that a poult is able to leave the nest so quickly?



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_

**“Turkey Task Cards” Recording Sheet**

|    |    |
|----|----|
| 1. | 2. |
| 3. | 4. |
| 5. | 6. |

Name: ANSWER KEY

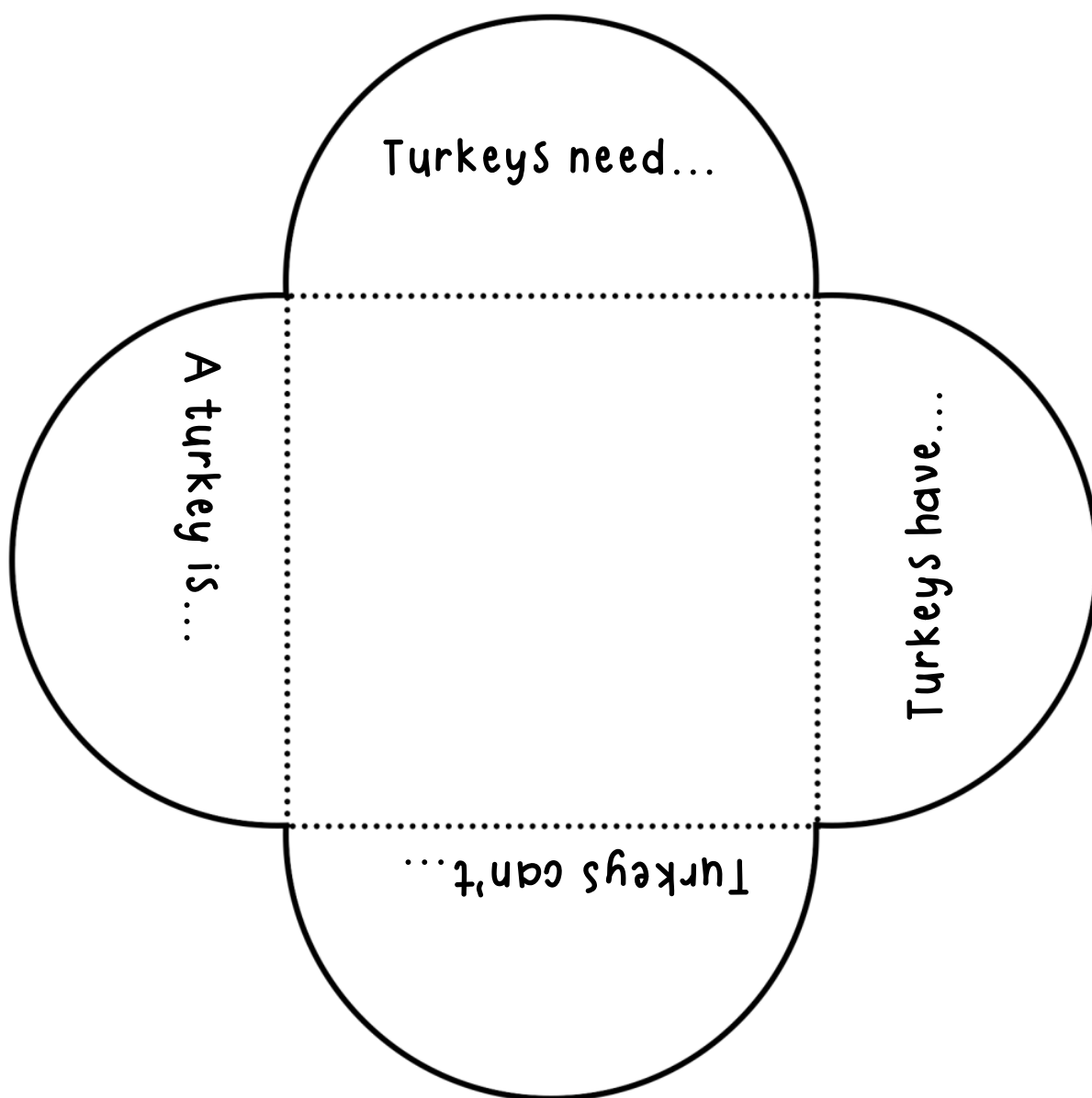
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### **“Turkey Talk” Recording Sheet**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Plural noun choices:<br>turkeys, birds, toms, hens,<br>gobblers, poults, babies  | 2. Caruncle are fleshy<br>bumps on top of a turkey's<br>head<br><br>A wattle is a red flap of skin<br>under the turkey's chin   |
| 3. Franklin did not want the<br>bald eagle as our national<br>bird because<br>its bad moral character<br>and the way it hunted for<br>its prey. | 4. Doesn't = does not<br><br>Answers may vary.  |
| 5. Female and turkey  | 6. It's probably a good idea<br>because there is many<br>other poults needing to eat<br>when born. It could be<br>challenging for the mother<br>hen to feed them all. |

Directions: Underneath each flap, complete the turkey sentence with facts you have learned.

- Draw a picture of what turkeys eat in the center.
- Cut out the shape and fold on the dotted lines.
- Glue onto paper into a notebook.



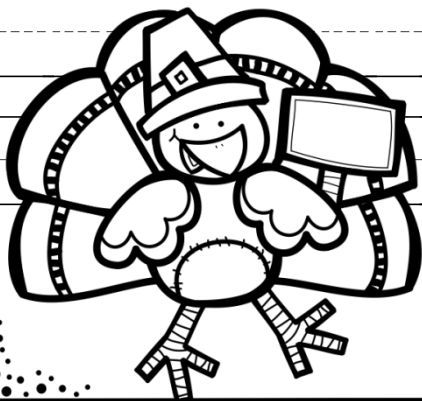


# Writing Prompt

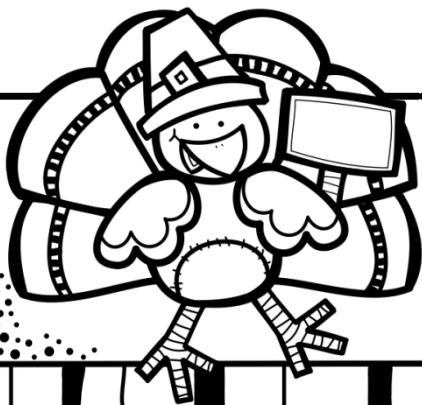
Pretend you are a turkey. Write a letter to a turkey farmer asking for a Thanksgiving Day pardon. Give 3 reasons why you he should NOT have you for dinner!



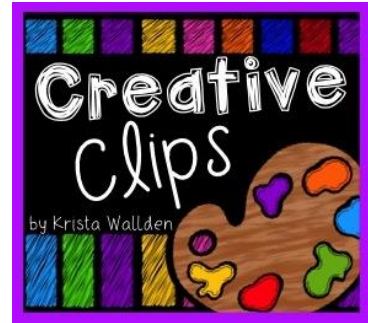
Dear Turkey Farmer ,



Dear Turkey Farmer ,



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TRT/OG, 2014

