Name: _____ Date: _____

Ducks at the Pond

Circle group

Ducks live by a pond. A pond is a small lake. It is a good home for ducks.

A duck can swim. Its feet are big and flat. They push the water like paddles. A duck can fly too. Its wings are strong.

A duck eats plants, bugs, and small fish. It puts its head in the water to find food.

A duck gets out of the pond. It stays dry! Oil on its feathers keeps the water off.

Questions

1. Where do ducks live?

_____

_____

2. What do a duck's flat feet do?

_____

_____

3. Name two things a duck eats.

_____

_____

4. Why does a duck put its head in the water?

_____

_____

5. What keeps a duck dry?

_____

_____

Words to know

pond: a small lake
paddle: a flat tool that pushes water to move a boat
feathers: the light, soft coat on a bird's body
oil: a smooth liquid that water slides off

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Ducks at the Pond

Triangle group

Ducks live by a pond. A pond is a small lake. The pond is a good home for ducks.

A duck can swim. Its feet are big and flat. The flat feet push the water like paddles. A duck can also fly. It has strong wings.

A duck eats plants, bugs, and small fish. It puts its head under the water to look for food.

When it gets out of the pond, a duck stays dry. Oil on its feathers keeps the water off.

Questions

1. Where do ducks live?

_____

_____

2. What do a duck's big, flat feet do?

_____

_____

3. What are two things a duck eats?

_____

_____

4. Why does a duck put its head under the water?

_____

_____

5. What keeps a duck dry when it gets out of the water?

_____

_____

Words to know

pond: a small lake
paddle: a flat tool that pushes water to move a boat
feathers: the light, soft coat on a bird's body
oil: a smooth liquid that water slides off

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Ducks at the Pond

Square group

Ducks make their home beside a pond, which is a small lake. A pond is a wonderful place for ducks to live.

A duck is an excellent swimmer. Its big, flat feet push against the water like a pair of paddles. A duck is also able to fly, because it has powerful wings.

A duck feeds on plants, insects, and small fish. It dips its head beneath the surface of the water to search for something to eat.

When it climbs out of the pond, a duck stays surprisingly dry. A coating of oil on its feathers keeps the water from soaking in.

Questions

1. Where do ducks make their home?

_____

_____

2. How do a duck's big, flat feet help it swim?

_____

_____

3. Name two kinds of food a duck feeds on.

_____

_____

4. Why does a duck dip its head beneath the surface of the water?

_____

_____

5. Why does a duck stay dry when it climbs out of the pond?

_____

_____

Words to know

pond: a small lake
paddle: a flat tool that pushes water to move a boat
feathers: the light, soft coat on a bird's body
oil: a smooth liquid that water slides off

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Ducks at the Pond

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Ducks at the Pond

Easier · 79 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.7

1. By a pond.
2. They push the water like paddles, so the duck can swim.
3. Any two of: plants, bugs, small fish.
4. To find food.
5. Oil on its feathers.

Triangle: Ducks at the Pond

This passage · 84 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.1

1. By a pond.
2. They push the water like paddles, so the duck can swim.
3. Any two of: plants, bugs, small fish.
4. To look for food.
5. Oil on its feathers.

Square: Ducks at the Pond

Harder · 103 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.8

1. Beside a pond, which is a small lake.
2. They push against the water like paddles.
3. Any two of: plants, insects, small fish.
4. To search for food.
5. A coating of oil on its feathers keeps the water from soaking in.