

# Just Plain Fancy

Book by Patricia Polacco

Unit study and printables by Wende, Rose Ann Kuhns, and Ami

## ***Bible/Character***

Envy –

Discuss the story of Joseph and his colorful coat (Gen 37:1-4). Joseph's father loved him more than his brothers and made him a coat of many colors. His brothers envied and hated him because of it. Envy is being discontent because someone has something you wish you had. Discuss how we need to be content and thankful for the things God has given to us. Talk about how being discontentment can soon lead to anger and hate.

Jealousy/Envy/Equality –

Discuss how envy will sometimes make you do things that you know are wrong, like lie or trick people. Read *A Bargain for Frances* by Russell Hoban. Discuss how the Amish feel that equality is very important, so that everyone is the same and not tempted to feel envy or jealousy.

→ Complete and read mini book for “The Peacock and the Crane” from Aesop's Fables.

Gossip –

There are two definitions for gossip-- one is-- a person given to idle (useless, senseless) talk or rumors, the second one is-- light, familiar talk.

Discuss how we need to be careful not to spread rumors and idle talk because it is not kind or honest. The womenfolk in the story were doing what the second definition says, chatting about their gardens, quilts, etc.

Help your student determine the difference between the two types of talk-- what things are good to talk about and what kinds of things are best left unsaid.

Washing of Feet –

Amish follow this Biblical custom. Read John 12:3 and discuss how loving Mary was to clean Jesus' feet.

Responsibility –

Discuss the responsibilities Amish children have such as Naomi's responsibility is to take care of the chickens. The sisters also hung wash, served food, poured lemonade, and threaded needles for the women. Naomi got her cap for being responsible. Are you responsible? What do you do to help your family?

→ Complete Chores Split Book

### ***Social Studies***

Pennsylvania –

Can you find any clues as to where this story takes place? Look at the back of the delivery truck. Study Pennsylvania with your child. Pennsylvania is the thirty-third largest state, located in the northeastern part of the country. Pennsylvania, meaning "Penn's Woods," was named after William Penn, who was given the land by the King of England in 1681 for a debt that was owed to his father, Admiral William Penn. Pennsylvania is known for its history during the Revolutionary War, with the nation's capital being in Philadelphia. Pennsylvania was the second state (actually a commonwealth) admitted into the union in 1787. Pennsylvania's outstanding industrial achievements were in iron and steel. Explore the state symbols and why the state adopted these symbols. Especially be sure to mention that the state tree is the eastern hemlock.

Possible topics for discussion of Pennsylvania history are the Liberty Bell located in Philadelphia, Lancaster County, Hershey Chocolate Factory, Groundhog Day originating in Punxsutawney, or Gettysburg, the sight of the civil war battle and Gettysburg Address.

Famous people from Pennsylvania include Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Boone, John James Audubon, and James Buchanan.

→ Complete Pennsylvania Shutterfold Book

Go Along Books:

*The Folks in the Valley; A Pennsylvania Dutch ABC* by Jim Aylesworth

## *Seeds of a Nation - Pennsylvania* by Margaret Coull Phillips

### Amish –

In the 18th century Anabaptists were persecuted because of their religious beliefs and began migrating from Germany to America. The first immigrants came to Berks County PA, but because of land issues moved to Lancaster County PA. The Amish get their name from Jacob Amman when he left the Swiss Anabaptists because he felt they were drifting away from their teachings especially the one to shun those who have disobeyed the rules of the church.

The group was formed in 1693. Amish people have scattered over the eastern part of the US and Canada. There are now 3 groups of Amish- Old Order Amish, Beachy Amish and New Order Amish. Old Order Amish still live a lot like Jacob Amman would have lived; without electricity and a simple lifestyle.

Beachy Amish and New Order Amish do not have nearly as strict church rules; some even have electricity and drive cars.

### Amish Children—

Amish boys and girls each have their chores to do each day, but they still have time to play. Small girls have rag dolls, which are made from cloth and do not have a face, as graven images are against their belief (Exodus 20). Boys usually play outdoors sports like baseball and volleyball. They also have swing sets and play board games. They usually only go to school until 8th grade. Then the girls learn how to keep house and the boys learn how make a living.

Discuss how Amish children still face the same temptations as we do. (Sharing toys, being honest, doing their chores right, etc.)

### Culture –

The Amish believe in the simple life and being separate from the world. Electricity is viewed as being connected to or relying on the world for something and that goes against their rule for living a separate life. They can use batteries and generators to run some of their tools for their work. They use horse and mules to pull their farm equipment. They will not drive cars but will hire someone to take them to places they can't easily take their horse and buggy.

→ Complete Amish Layer Book

## *Science*

Birds –

The life cycle of a bird is simple in comparison to some other animals: egg, chick and adult. The male and female bird mate and the eggs are fertilized as they meet with the sperm. Fertilized eggs can be laid for up to two weeks after mating. Most birds lay one egg a day and when they have laid their clutch; they start to incubate them. Incubation time varies among the different birds-- from 10 days for the cowbird up to 80 days for the albatross. Sparrows, thrushes, and robins incubate for 11-15 days; while chickens incubate for 21 days. During incubation the mother turns the eggs once or twice a day to evenly heat them and to keep the membranes of the embryo from sticking to the side of the egg.

Birds eat nuts, seeds, insect, berries, tree sap, flower nectar. The different types of bills tell you what kind of food the bird eats.

Birds have bones specially designed for flight. They are lightweight yet strong.

They have four types of feathers; down, body, wing and tail feathers. Down feathers are soft and close to the body and help kept he bird warm. Body feathers lie smoothly over the down feathers and are oily and waterproof. Wing feathers are the long feathers which help the bird to fly. Tail feathers help to steer the bird as it flies and helps balance it on the ground. Adult birds molt at least once a year. Molting is the replacement of feathers; a bird never loses all of its feathers at once—it happens over a period of time.

The difference between birds and fowl is that fowl are often grown for eating their meat or for their eggs. Birds are not usually eaten. They are enjoyed for their songs and the fact they eat harmful bugs and insects.

→ Complete Bird Tab Book

→ Complete and play For the Birds File Folder Game

Peacocks –

Peafowl is the term to refer to both male and female. Peacocks are male and Peahens are the female and peachicks are the young.

There are two species of Peafowl; the Indian peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*) from India, often called Blue peafowl and the Green peafowl (*Pavo muticus*) which lives farther east in Burma, Thailand, Indo China, Malaya and Java. The India Blue peafowl is the one most often found across America. Peafowl are in the pheasant family and are easy to keep and hearty.

Peafowl are omnivorous and eat plant parts, flower petals, seed heads, insects and other arthropods, reptiles, and amphibians.

When many people think of a peacock, the first thing that comes to mind is the beautiful colors of this bird's feathers. Blue, green, gold, and the appearance of what looks like an eye, right in the center of some of the feathers, are the trademarks of this bird.

They also have a crest, or crown, on top their head, making them appear even more regal than they already do. The beak is (on average) an inch long in a full-grown bird. Reaching heights of over three feet, an adult peacock's 'train' of tail feathers can be sixty inches in length.

A peacock does not come into this full glory of feathers until he is about three years old.

→ Complete Peafowl Petal Book

Chickens –

Like Naomi, most Amish raise chickens for both meat and eggs. It is usually the children of the family who are responsible for taking care of them. The male chicken is called a rooster, the female is called a hen, and the babies are called chicks. A group of chickens is called a flock.

Chickens eat plants, seeds, insects, and small animals like frogs and snakes. Most hens lay an egg every 24 hours or so. If the eggs aren't collected, the chicken will lay them until there is a clutch, or group of eggs, and then start to sit on them and

incubate them. When a hen sits on eggs, she is said to have gone “broody.” Hens aren’t too picky about the eggs they incubate, and have been known to hatch other hens’ eggs, duck eggs, or as in our story, peacock eggs.

→ Complete Chicken Flap Book

### ***Language Arts***

Foreshadowing –

Look at the picture adjacent to title page. What is happening? What do you think might happen in this story? What does *exotic*, written on the egg cartons, mean?

Vocabulary –

Review unfamiliar words with your child.

Shunned - means to avoid deliberately, to keep away from, take pains to avoid (Amish shun (expel) their people that have disobeyed the rules of their church.)

Ordnung – is a German word for order. For the Amish it is a set of rules, often unwritten, that they live their lives by. It is how they should act, what they are allowed or not allowed to do. Each church has its own Ordnung.

Botherment – a mixture of feelings-- worry, troubled, sadness, uncertainty

Frolic – means a work gathering, usually to build a barn that was burned or any other big work project that needed more people than just your family.

Organdy – a fine, thin yet stiff muslin white in color that Amish ladies use for their caps

Miracle – an event that cannot be explained by any known law of nature, something so rare or unusual it seems like a miracle

→ Complete Vocabulary Mini-Book

Comparing Works –

Read the classic story of *The Ugly Duckling* by Hans Christian Andersen. Does it remind your student of *Just Plain Fancy*? How is *The Ugly Duckling* different? Discuss the similarities and differences as well as the moral of the story(ies).

→ Complete Venn Diagram Flap Book

### ***Math***

Phone Number –

On the back of the delivery truck you can see the beginning of a phone number. With your youngest children, help them to memorize their phone number, and any other important phone numbers this week. You may also want to make mention that most Amish do not have phones.

How do they communicate with each other? What do they do if there is an emergency?

→ Complete Phone Simple Fold

### ***Art***

Quilting—

Quilts often reflect the quiet lifestyle of the Amish -- the soft, muted colors used in the different designs. Generally solid colors are used in their quilts, and then they are stitched with elaborate designs.

They have quiltings where a group of women and girls gather for the day and hand quilt a quilt. It is a social time where younger ones learn to perfect their skills and also learn values from the older ones. Quilts are given as wedding gifts and for other important events.

Try to quilt:

Take two pieces of plain light colored cotton material about 12-18 inches square. Using a pencil lightly draw a simple design (heart, circle, Letter initial) on one of the squares. Put thin quilt batting between the materials and put between an embroidery hoops. Tighten the material in the hoop. Using white cotton thread

and needle stitch up and down making small even running stitches.

Another idea is to use colored construction paper and cut it into shapes (squares, stars, rectangles, and triangles) and make a quilt design of your own.

→ Color in Quilt Square and add to Lapbook

Library List –

*Just Like Mama* by Beverly Lewis

*Katy's Gift*, an Amish story by Keith Bowen

*The Ugly Duckling* by Hans Christian Anderson

*A Bargain for Frances* by Russell Hoban

*The Folks in the Valley; A Pennsylvania Dutch ABC* by Jim Aylesworth

*Seeds of a Nation - Pennsylvania* by Margaret Coull Phillips

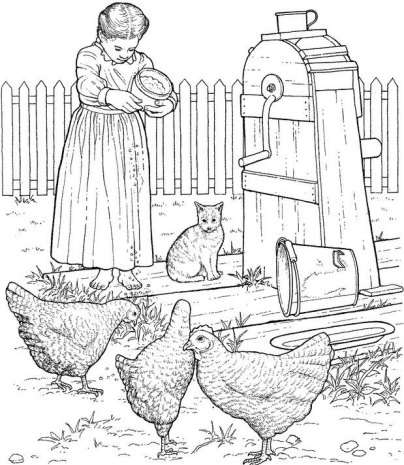

Materials and information on this website may be used for your own personal and school use. **Material may not be shared electronically or be used for resale.**

© Homeschool Share



# Amish Chores & My Chores Matchbook

**Directions:** Cut out book as one piece and fold matchbook style. Write one topic on each side (such as French fries and mashed potatoes). Use the inside of the book to compare and contrast the two topics.

Amish Chores	My Chores
<p>Glue this area to your laptop or notebook.</p>	
	

Directions: Cut out rectangles. Stack together (smallest to largest) with cover on top and staple.

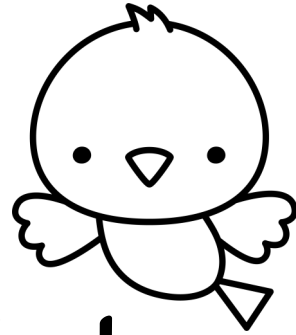
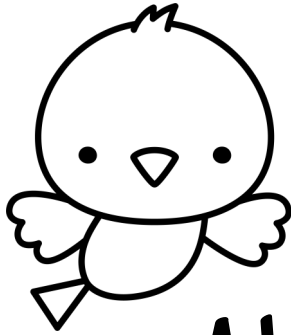
# Amish Life



## Amish Children

## Amish Origins

## Amish Culture



# All About Birds

Life Cycle

REMOVE THIS AREA

Reproduction

REMOVE THIS AREA

## Bird Tab Book

**Directions:** Cut the five strips along the solid outer lines. If there is a rectangle piece in the right corner of the strip, cut it off as indicated. Stack your strips in order with cover on top and staple as indicated.

Diet	REMOVE THIS AREA
Anatomy	

# Vocabulary Book

**Directions:** Cut on the solid lines. Write in definitions. Stack pages together with cover on top and staple on the left side.

<p>My Book of <b>New Words</b></p> 	<p><b>Shunned</b></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Ordnung</b></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p><b>Botherment</b></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

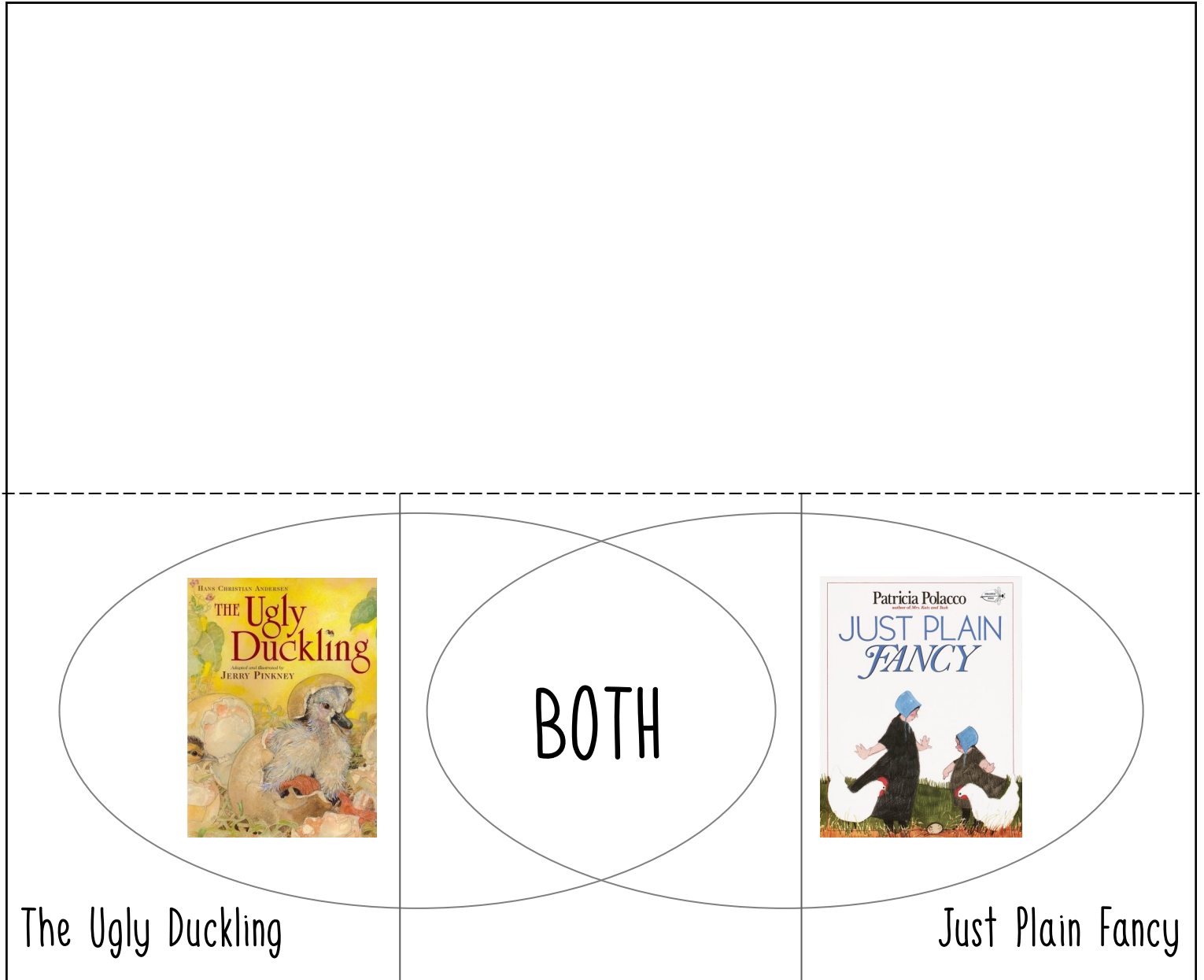
# Vocabulary Book

**Directions:** Cut on the solid lines. Write in definitions. Stack pages together with cover on top and staple on the left side.

<div>Miracle</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Frolic</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Organdy</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>

# Comparing Stories Venn Diagram

**Directions:** Cut on solid lines. Fold on dotted.



## Chickens Flap Book

**Directions:** Cut out book as one piece. Fold left side under. Fold right side under (it is the cover). Unfold book. Cut on the solid lines to form four flaps.

Names

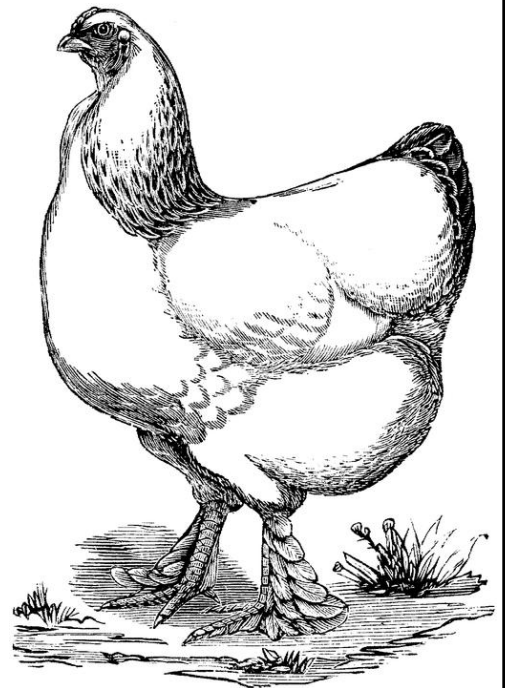
Diet

Habits

Interesting  
Fact

Glue this area to your  
lapbook or notebook.

# The Scoop on Chickens





## The Peacock and the Crane

**Directions:** Cut out book as one piece. Fold in half. Paste cover to the front. Discuss how this story relates to *Just Plain Fancy*.

A Peacock, puffed up with vanity,  
met a Crane one day, and to impress him  
spread his gorgeous tail in the Sun.

"Look," he said. "What have you to  
compare with this? I am dressed in all the  
glory of the rainbow, while your feathers  
are gray as dust!"

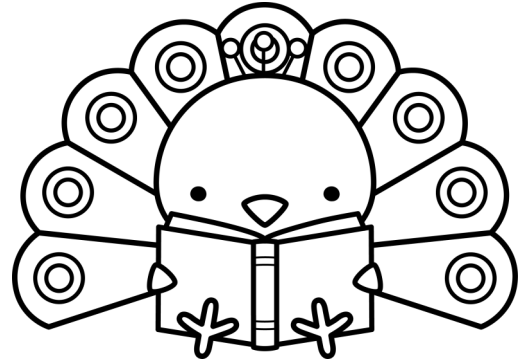
The Crane spread his broad wings and  
flew up toward the sun.

"Follow me if you can," he said. But  
the Peacock stood where he was among the  
birds of the barnyard, while the Crane  
soared in freedom far up into the blue sky.

The useful is of much more importance and  
value, than the ornamental.

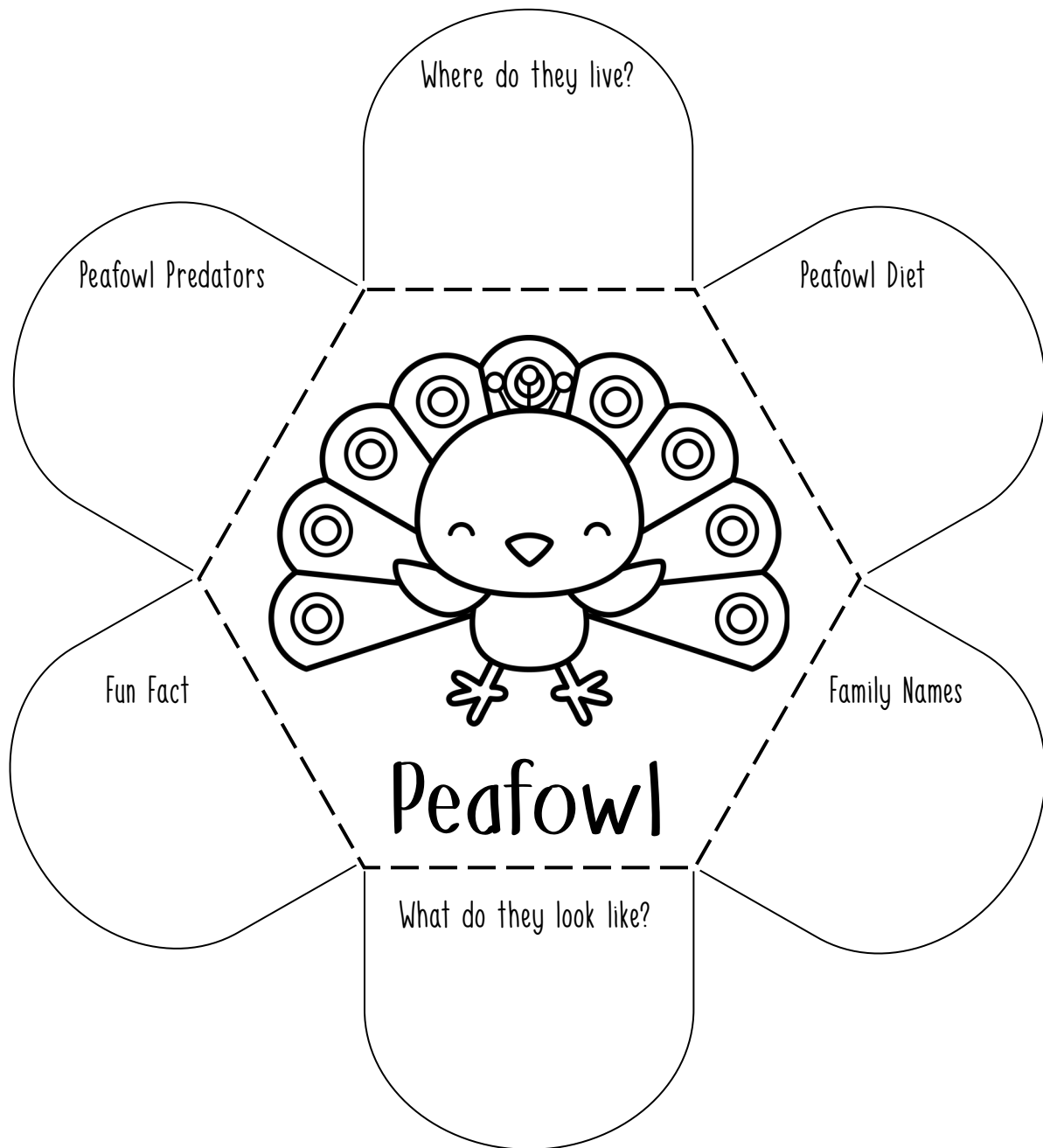
## The Peacock and the Crane

by Aesop



## Peafowl Petal Book

**Directions:** Cut out shape as one piece. Write one fact on each petal. Fold flaps in using the dotted lines as your guide. Tuck the last flap under so that book will stay closed.

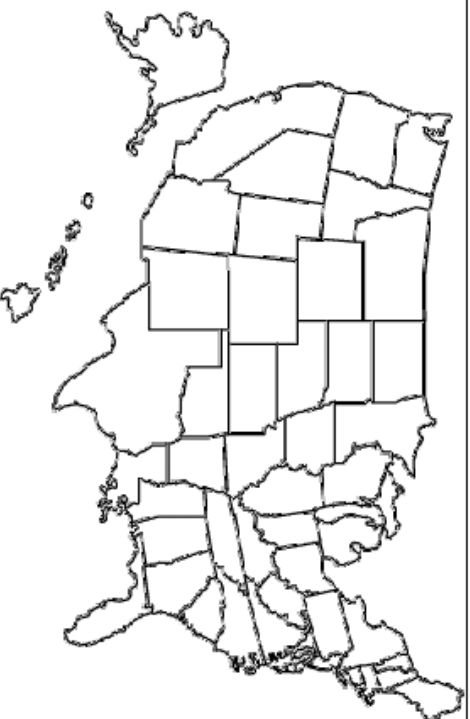


# Pennsylvania


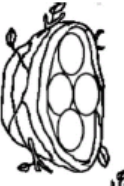



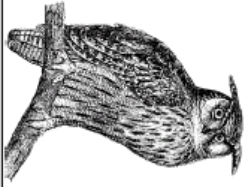



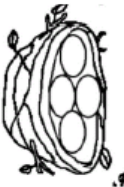

Where in the  
United States  
is...

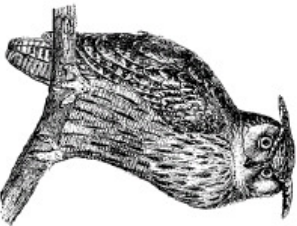





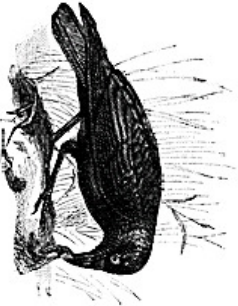




Locate and color in the state.



Cut out book as one piece on solid lines. Fold on dotted lines.  
Cut out map on solid lines and glue under shutters.

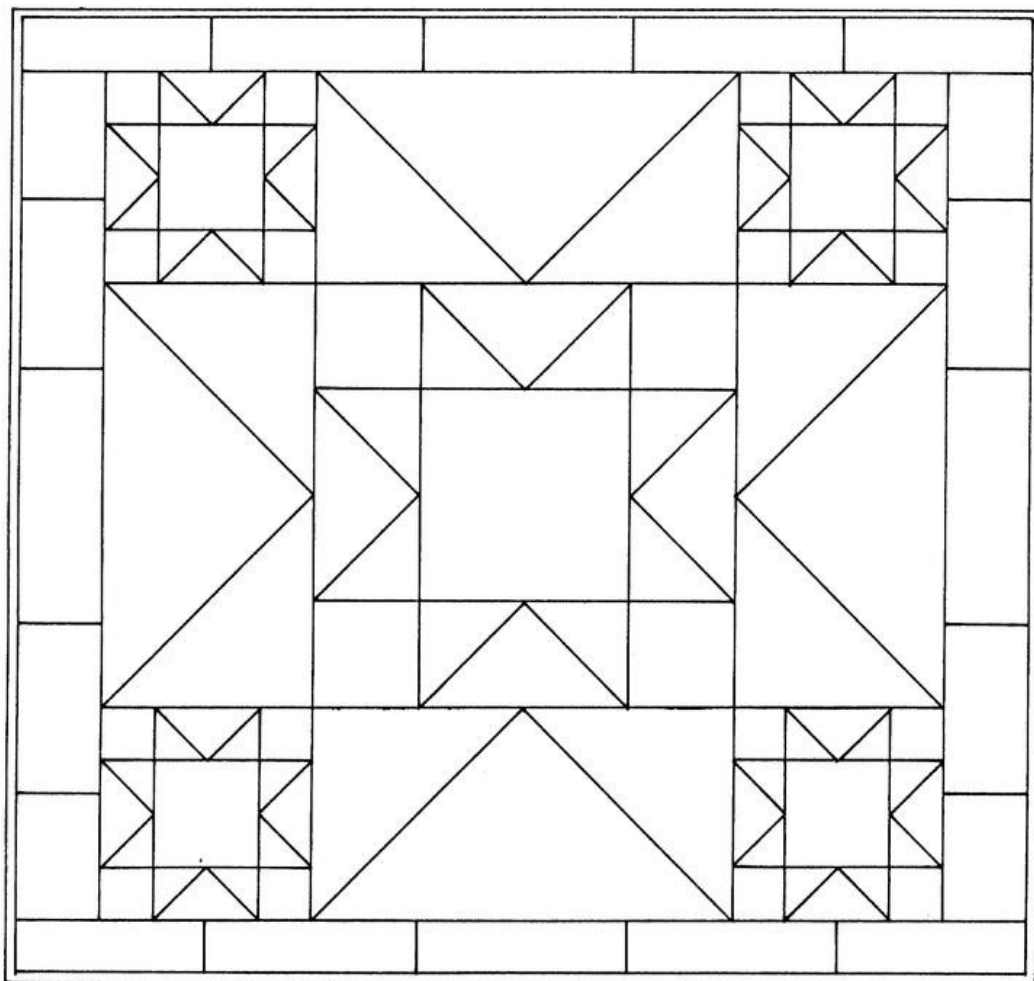
			Pick a Bird Card and Go to That Space!		Name three ways that a bird can protect itself and go again!	
Pick a Bird Card and Go to That Space!	<div>Place cards here</div> <div>For The Birds!</div>					Pick a Bird Card and Go to That Space!
						
Name five kinds of birds and YOU WIN!!						What is a clutch? Answer correctly and go again!
Start	Name three things birds like to eat and go again!		Pick a Bird Card and Go to That Space!			

 <p>Great Horned Owl</p>	 <p>Chicken</p>	 <p>Cardinal</p>	 <p>Hummingbird</p>	 <p>Duck</p>
 <p>Swallow</p>	 <p>Crow</p>	 <p>Pigeon</p>	 <p>Peacock</p>	

Instructions: Print out game board and cards on card stock. Laminate if desired. Roll a die and move that many spaces. Follow directions on square. First one to end wins!

## Quilt Patterns

**Directions:** Color the quilt. Add it to your lapbook.



## Terms of Use

This product may be used for your own classroom or personal use. It may not be shared as a pdf file, on the web, or in any other way. It should not be recreated or duplicated. © [www.homeschoolshare.com](http://www.homeschoolshare.com)

## Just Plain Fancy Lapbook Clipart & Font Credits



Clipart Etc.  
[Clipart.com](http://Clipart.com)

