



Make Way
for Ducklings

Make Way for Ducklings

Book by Robert McCloskey

Lessons and printables by Tamara, Kendall, Wende, and Ami

Social Studies

Boston, Massachusetts –

The Mallard family lived in Massachusetts. If desired, do a brief study of the state. Massachusetts is part of what are called the “New England States”, located in the northeastern part of our country. Have student locate Massachusetts on the United States map. Your child may be familiar with the state, having learned in the past about the Mayflower landing at Plymouth in 1620, the Boston Tea Party, the Midnight Ride of Paul Revere, or maybe the Salem Witch Trials. Well Massachusetts was also among the first states to experience rapid city growth, and today is one of America’s most urbanized and industrialized regions. Massachusetts has been the home to many famous people including John Adams, our second president, and his son, John Quincy Adams, our sixth president. The state flower is the Mayflower, and the state bird is the chickadee. Boston was founded by the Puritans in 1630.

Looking at a map of Massachusetts, have your child locate the capital, Boston, where the Mallards lived. Boston is not only the capital city, it is also the largest city in Massachusetts.

Complete flap book and add to your lapbook.

Science

Ducks -

Ducks are a fun and interesting topic for children to cover. Don’t be surprised if your children talk you into buying some ducklings to raise. Mine did!

Research the Mallard Duck and complete the Five Fast Facts page by typing right on it.

Food Chain –

Mrs. Mallard didn't want to live anywhere there were foxes or turtles. She knew that ducks were lower on the food chain than foxes or turtles. The food chain is how one living thing, called an organism, is eaten by another living thing. There are three kinds of living things:

1. Producers – these are plants that can make their own food
2. Consumers – these are animals that eat plants or other animals. There are four types of consumers.
 - a. Herbivores which only eat plants
 - b. Carnivores which only eat meat
 - c. Scavengers which eat dead things
 - d. Omnivores which eat both plants and animals
3. Decomposers – living things that get their energy by breaking down dead plants and animals.

Foxes are carnivores that eat ducks. Turtles are omnivores that eat ducklings, and would also compete with the ducks for other food such as fish, frogs, worms, and plants. Ducks, lower on the food chain than foxes and turtles, are also omnivores. What did the ducks eat in the story? The ducks fished in the pond, looking for what may have been either meat or plants, and also ate peanuts. Encourage your child to draw a food chain including the ducks. A food chain will always start with a consumer and end with a producer. It would look something like this:

Foxes (consumer-carnivore)



Ducks (consumer – omnivore)



Frogs (consumer – omnivore)



Beetles (consumer – herbivore)



Plants (producer)

Have your child make a record of his diet for one day. What are the foods in the food chain?

Animal Parents

Discuss how your parents take care of you. Discuss how Mr. and Mrs. Mallard were good parents to their ducklings. Discuss some of these other animals that care for their young.

Elephants- baby is a calf

1. after the calf is born, the mother helps the calf stand
2. the baby drinks the mother's milk
3. the baby stays with the mother by holding the mother's tail with her trunk (much like how humans hold hands)
4. the mother also serves as shade from the hot sun, shares food with the baby, and gives her calf baths by washing it down (squirting water on the calf and scrubbing it with her trunk)
4. Elephant mothers are devoted to their offspring forming a bond that can last for 50 years!

Alligator – baby is a hatchling

How alligators care for their young

Note: most reptiles don't care for their young—alligators (and crocs) are an exception

1. Mothers are attentive to their offspring before birth (and long after); builds a nest and then listens for the alligators to make a high-pitched noise from inside the egg. When the mother hears this noise, she knows it is time to remove the nesting material.
2. Upon hatching, the mother uses her jaws and tenderly collects her babies and carries them to the water's edge to give them a bath (wash the sand from them)
3. They do whatever they can to protect their babies from harm in the first few years of the hatchling's life

Polar Bear- baby is a cub

1. During the first few weeks of life, polar bear cubs nurse most of the time

2. The mother keeps the cubs close to her to keep them warm
3. When the cubs are ready, the mother leads them to sea ice; travel is slow with frequent breaks to rest and nurse; a mother carries her cubs on her back when there is deep snow or water
4. Mother polar bears are extremely protective of their young and willing to risk their own lives for the sake of their cubs
5. The mother usually nurses for 30 months at which time the cubs are set out on their own

Whale- baby is a calf

The mother whale

1. Gently pushes her baby to the surface of the water for fresh air
2. Keeps her baby near her as she swims along in the water
3. Squirts milk into the calf's mouth
4. Protects from harm
5. Keeps her calf with her for a year

Note: Dolphin care is very similar

Opossums- baby is a joey

1. Moms have a fur-lined pouch on the stomach; they carry the joeys around in this warm, cozy pouch until they can fend for themselves.
2. The young live and drink milk in the pouch for about 2 months.

Note: Kangaroo care is very similar

Penguins- baby is a chick

After the mom lays the egg, she goes off to sea. The male keeps the egg warm on his feet enveloped by the stomach for 72 days (during the coldest part of the Antarctic year). During the time he takes care of the chick, he loses half his body weight!

Snow Owl—baby is an owlet

1. The mother and father feed, protect, and bring up the babies until their offspring are ready to fly away and hunt on their own.
2. Snow owls will aggressively attack intruders up to about one mile from the nest site; males sometimes defend their young using a "crippled bird" act to lure predators away from nests.
3. The young require an entire summer's worth of special care by the owl parents.

Gorilla- baby is an infant

1. Mothers keep infants in (almost) constant contact for the first six months of life (in the beginning they are clutched belly-to-belly)
2. They nurse for 2.5-3 years
3. At about sixteen weeks, the gorilla begins riding on its mother's back

Baboon- baby is also an infant

1. Baboon parents tend to newborn infants around the clock
2. Babies cling to their mothers
3. Babies snuggle in their mother's lap for naps in the sun
4. Mothers fuss over and groom their young
(just a side note: the infants throw tantrums when their mothers wean them!)

Trumpeter Swan- baby is a cygnet

1. Both mom and dad help build a nest that is surrounded by water
2. The mother alone sits atop the nest; if she has to leave to feed, bathe, or preen, she covers her eggs with nest material.
3. The father guards the nest—chasing away any intruders
4. Both parents care for the young for 3-4 months

Tilapia Fish- baby is a fry

Note: Most fish do not care for their young in this way, but this was interesting and unique!

1. Tilapia lay their eggs and keep them in their mouths for safekeeping.
2. After the eggs hatch, the fry swim about freely, but stay close to their parents.
3. If danger approaches, the fry dart into their parents' mouths to hide!

Complete matchbooks and add them to your lapbook or notebook.

Language Arts**Vocabulary –**

Introduce the definitions of unfamiliar words as you come across them in the story, and have child use the word in a sentence to show understanding.

Dither - a state of flustered excitement or fear

Molt – to cast or shed the feathers, skin, or the like, that will be replaced by a new growth.

Opposite – situated, placed, or lying face to face with something else or each other, or in corresponding positions with relation to an intervening line, space, or thing:

Beckoned - to signal, summon, or direct by a gesture of the head or hand.

Capitalization -

There are many capitalized words throughout this story, so as you come across them, discuss these capitalization rules, and have your child use them in his own writings.

- Capitalize the first word in every sentence, and the first word in a direct quotation.
- Names of people, called proper nouns, get capitalized. Ex. Mack, Jack, Lack, etc.
- Titles of people, when attached to names, get capitalized. Ex. Mr. and Mrs. Mallard
- Geographical names, called proper nouns, get capitalized, including names of streets, cities, states, rivers, landmarks, and mountains. Ex. *Boston, Public Garden, Beacon Hill, State House, Mount Vernon Street* and *Charles River*, but not the words if they stand alone, such as *hill*, or *river*, or *street*.

Choose sentences from the book that include capitalized words for your student to copy.

Rhymes –

A rhyme is a similarity or likeness in the sounds existing between two words. A perfect rhyme will have the same vowel and consonant sounds. The ducklings' names, Jack, Kack, Lack, Mack, Nack, Ouack, Pack, and Quack all have the same "ack" sound at the end and therefore rhyme. Ask your child to think of other "ack" words that rhyme. A fun book of rhymes about ducks is *One Duck Stuck* by Phyllis Root.

Alphabetical Order -

It is important for a child to learn how to alphabetize. This skill will be used for looking up a phone number, seeking a book title in a card catalog, or looking something up in an index. Use the ducklings' names as an opportunity to teach this skill to your children. It may be helpful to have the alphabet in front of him when practicing alphabetizing. Have him first examine the initial letter in each word and have him put them in order. What happens if there is more than one word with the same initial letter? You then look at the second letter. And if necessary, look at the third. The correct order would then be: Jack, Kack, Lack, Mack, Nack, Quack, Pack, Quack

Complete flap book.

Classic Story –

This book is an “endearing childhood classic” from 1941. A classic is a book that is generally recognized as a standard of excellence, and is used as a model for other literature. It is a book that your parents and even grandparents may have read as children. Discuss other classics you have read with your children and as a child yourself.

Find the classic books on your shelves. Have your student make a visual timeline by putting them in order (oldest to newest).

Copywork –

Encourage your student to complete this page in his very best handwriting.

Discussion Questions –

1. Is this story set in the present or the past? How do you know? Study the illustrations and find details that help you answer this question.
2. What different occupations do people in this story have?
3. What kind of place were Mr. and Mrs. Mallard looking for? What were their requirements? What kind of habitat do you think ducks need?

Math

Counting by 8's –

There were 8 ducklings.

How many bills did they have? ($8 \times 1 = 8$)

How many wings did they have? ($8 \times 2 = 16$)

How many feet did they have? ($8 \times 2 = 16$)

If each duckling ate 3 peanuts, how many peanuts were eaten altogether? ($8 \times 3 = 24$)

If each duckling said "Quack!" 4 times, how many "Quacks!" were said? ($8 \times 4 = 32$)

Complete notebook printable page.

Calendar Skills –

Mr. Mallard told Mrs. Mallard, "I'll meet you in a week." Does your child know how many days are in a week? How many weeks are in a year? Does he know the names of all the days and months?

Sing the days of the week to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday too.

Wednesday, Thursday just for you.

Friday, Saturday that's the end.

Now let's say those days again!

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday!

Sing the months of the year to the tune of "Three Blind Mice"

January, February, March,

April, May, June.

July, August, September,

October, November, December.

These are the twelve months of the year.

Now sing them together so we can all hear.

How many months are there in a year?

Twelve months in a year.

(Songs from <http://www.canteach.ca/elementary/songspoems4.html>)

Complete notebook components:

Days of the Week cards & pocket

Capitalizing the Months of the Year strip

Art

Caldecott Medal –

On the cover of the book we are told that *Make Way for Ducklings* is a “Caldecott Award Book.” Discuss what that means. The Caldecott Medal was named in honor of nineteenth-century English illustrator Randolph Caldecott. It is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children. Explain *distinguished* to your student and determine why *Make Way for Ducklings* won this medal. Why do you think the artwork is considered excellent? Do you think it was a good choice? You may want to check out more Caldecott Medal books at the library.

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Boston. Massachusetts

Cut on solid. Fold on dotted. Glue appropriate answers under flaps.

Boston



Massachusetts

The Boston
Tea Party

New England

1630
(it's really old!)

Boston is the
capital of. . .

It is the location of
many historical events
including. . .

Boston is the largest
city in. . .

Boston was founded by
Puritans in. . .

Alphabetical Order

Idea contributed by Kendall

<p>Alphabetical Order</p> <p>ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ</p>	<p>Paste flap book here.</p>
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Cut base out as one piece. Cut out flap book (next page) on the solid lines. Fold on dotted. Paste to the base as indicated.

Read a passage from the book with the names of the ducklings. Have student circle the first letter of each of the ducklings' names. Letters J-Q should be circled. Have student write the letters in order on the outside of the flap book (one per flap); write the corresponding duckling names under the flaps.



[illegible]

MAKE WAY FOR DUCKLINGS

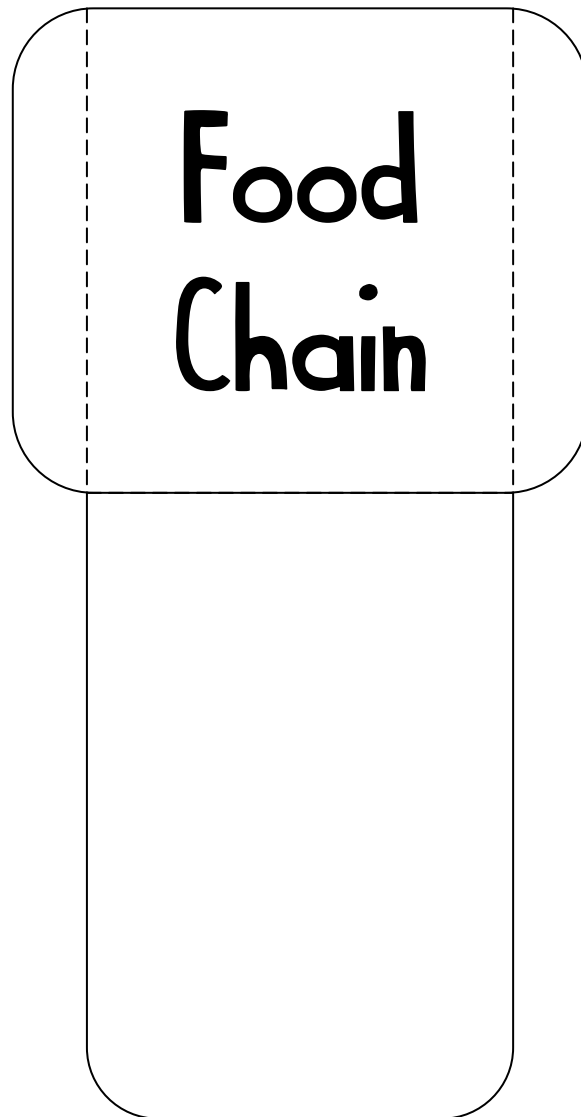
There they waded ashore and waddled along till
they came to the highway.

There they waded
ashore and waddled
along till they came
to the highway.

Food Chain

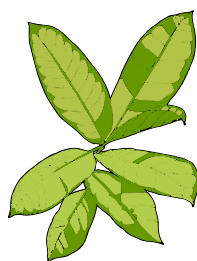
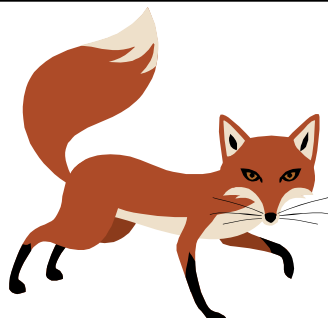
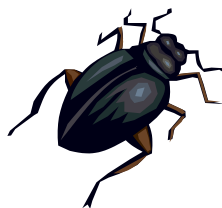
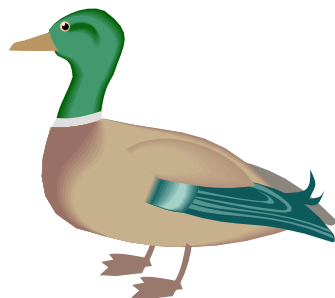
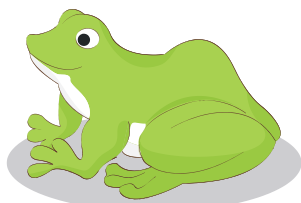
Cut pocket out. Fold back flap up and wrap side flaps around the back and glue down.
Glue the back of your pocket into your lapbook.

Complete the accordion book on the next page. Store in pocket.



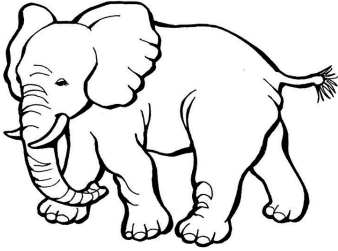
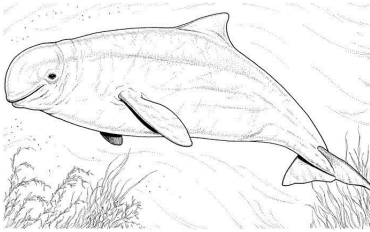
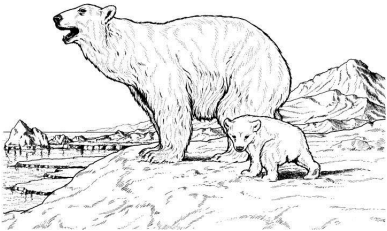
Cut out shapes on solid black lines. Fold on dotted lines like an accordion (back and forth, back and forth). Cut and paste the animals in order of the food chain. The fox should be at the top. Once all the animals are pasted on the strip, have your student draw arrows to indicate who eats who.

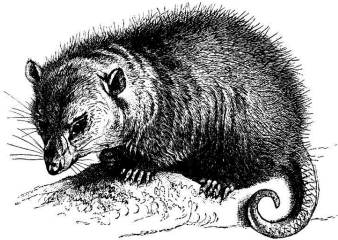
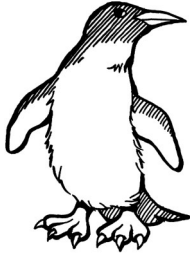
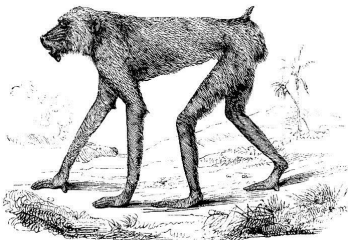
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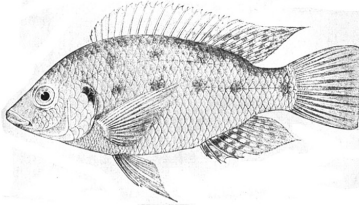
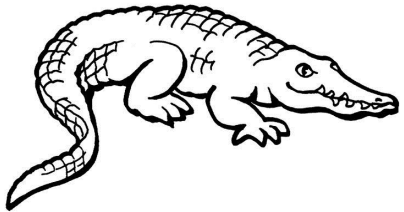


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Animal Parenting

Elephant	Whale	Polar Bear
		

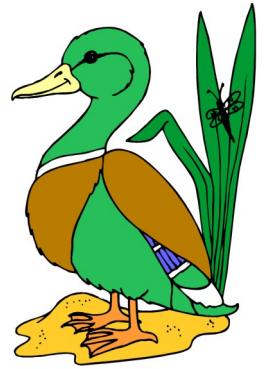
Opossum	Penguin	Baboon
		

Swan	Tilapia Fish	Alligator
		

<p>The calf stays with the mother by holding the mother's tail with her trunk.</p> <p>The mother also uses her trunk to give her baby baths!</p>	<p>The joeys are carried around in fur-lined pouch. They live in their mother's pouch for about two months.</p>	<p>These eggs are kept inside the mouth of a parent until they hatch. Once they hatch, the fry swim about freely, but they stay close to their parents.</p>
<p>The mother uses her jaws to tenderly collect her hatchlings and to carry them to the water for a bath. She protects her hatchlings from harm for a few years.</p>	<p>Mom lays the egg and passes it to dad who keeps it warm for 72 days. During the time he cares for the chick, he loses half his body weight.</p>	<p>Both mom and dad help build a nest. The mother sits on the nest while father guards it. Both parents care for the young cygnets for 3-4 months.</p>
<p>The mother keeps her cubs close to her to keep them warm. The cubs usually stay with their mother for the first 30 months of their lives.</p>	<p>These parents tend to newborn infants around the clock! The babies cling to their mothers, and the mothers fuss over and groom their young.</p>	<p>The mother gently pushes her calf to the surface of the water for fresh air. She keeps her baby near her as she swims along, and she squirts milk into the baby's mouth.</p>

Five Fast Facts

Mallard Ducks



Fact
One

Fact
Two

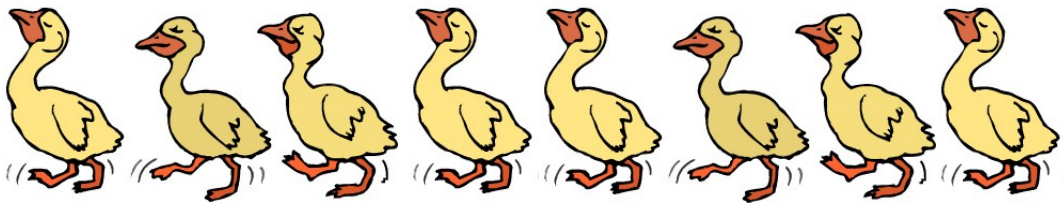
Fact
Three

Fact
Four

Fact
Five

Duckling Math

There were eight ducklings.



How many **bills**
did they have?

How many **wings**
did they have?

How many **webbed feet**
did they have?

If each duckling ate three
peanuts, how many
peanuts did they eat?

If each duckling said
"Quack!" four times, how
many "**Quacks!**" were said?

___anuary

___ebruary

___arch

___pril

___ay

___une

___uly

___ugust

___eptember

___ctober

___ovember

___ecember

Remember to start each
month with a capital letter!

Laminate strip. Let your student use a dry erase marker to write a capital letter at the beginning of each month. Wipe off and repeat as desired.

You can also use the strip for practice in learning the order of the months.

Days of the Week

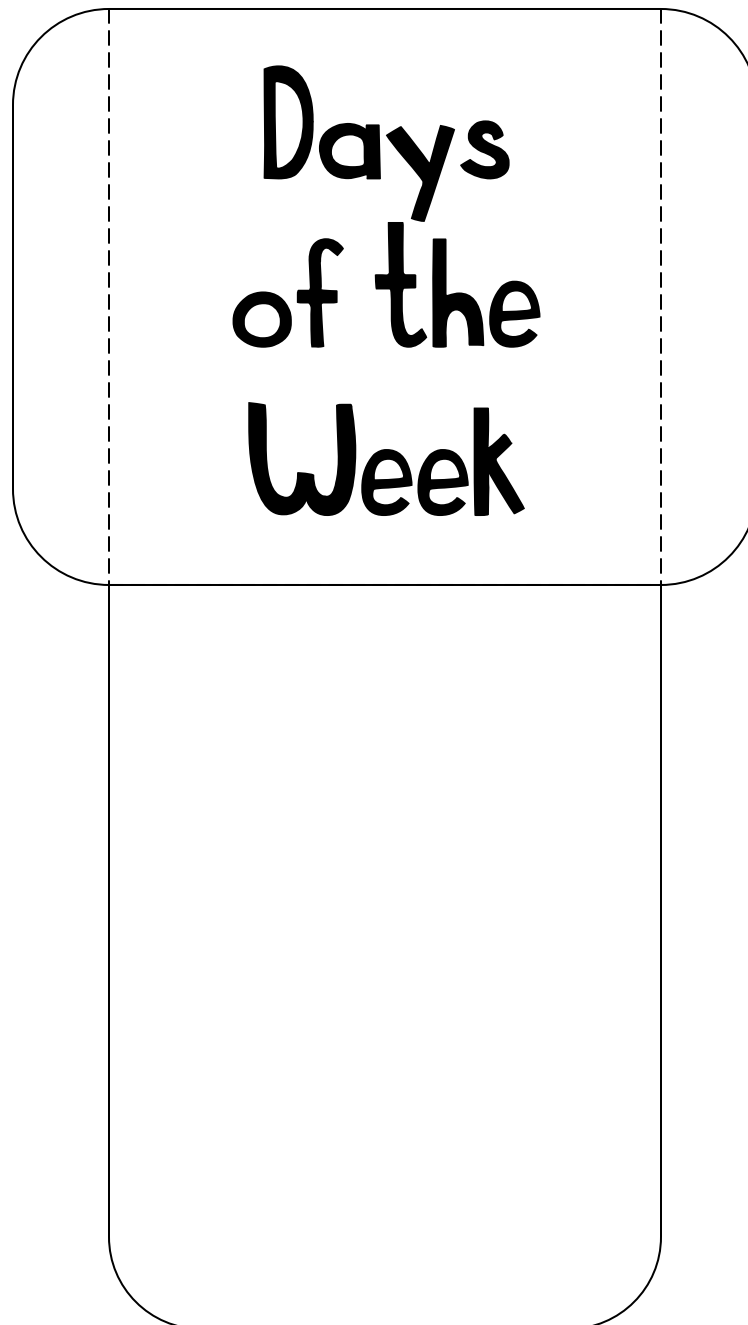
Directions: Ask your student to draw an illustration on each card to represent that day of the week. Cut out cards. Have your student practice putting the cards in order: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Store the cards in the pocket.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	<p>Mr. Mallard was gone for one week. How many days are in one week?</p> 	

Days of the Week

Cut pocket out. Fold back flap up and wrap side flaps around the back and glue down.
Glue the back of your pocket into your lapbook.

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Caldecott Medal

Use with the art lesson. After your discussion, cut out the medal and paste it to the front of your lapbook.



**Remember, you can find a free
Duck Lapbook
at [Homeschool Share](http://HomeschoolShare.com).**

