



Parent Resources for Canada Geese

Students will review and expand knowledge of seasonal migration and follow directions to make a 3D paper model.

Goals of this lesson:

- Review the definition of **migration**, the seasonal movement of animals from one area to another to follow the food.
- Learn about the migration habits of the Canada Goose.
- Follow multi-step directions to create a paper model of the Canada Goose which can be hung for display.

For additional information, copy and paste these links into your browser:

Entertaining, fun, and educational Canada Goose video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-bkxG28OUZw>

Slow-motion geese in flight:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co9f8ecXEvw>

Canada Geese or Canadian Geese?

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/birds/c/canada-goose/>

FUN FACTS ABOUT THE CANADA GOOSE

Female Canada Geese lay 2 to 9 eggs at a time. The babies are called goslings. They learn to swim and dive in water to get food on the first day that they hatch. You probably won't see Canada Geese flying during the Summer. On those hot days, they lose most of their feathers. This is called molting, and geese cannot fly until their new feathers grow in. During that time they stay close to water as protection from predators.

Canada Geese will violently attack anything that threatens them or their goslings. First, the goose will stretch out its neck and honk loudly. Don't get too close! It may also hiss, slap its wings, and even bite!

Canada Geese

Some animals move from one area to another when the seasons change. That movement is called **migration**, and animals do it to follow the food. One animal that we see in Charles County, the Canada Goose, will sometimes choose to stay all Winter, rather than migrate. These geese live near ponds and lakes, because that's where they get their food and build their nests.

Geese know that if their pond or lake freezes over with ice, they will not have any food to eat. But, if the geese sense that it is going to be a mild winter, they will stay put, and not migrate to warmer areas of our country. This past winter, many Canada Geese made the decision to stay here. It turned out to be quite a warm winter. We didn't even have any snow! For that reason, some people think that the Canada Goose is an expert at predicting the Winter weather. If

you see lots and lots of geese flying high in the sky during the Autumn months, it may be a sign that a cold, snowy Winter is coming.

When Canada Geese migrate, you will see them flying high in the sky in the shape of the letter **V**. You will hear them honking at each other. They take turns being the line-leader.



Canada Geese flying in a V shape in the sky. They do this to save energy. The first goose blocks the wind from the ones behind, so it makes it easier for them to fly. This way, they can fly hundreds of miles in one day.

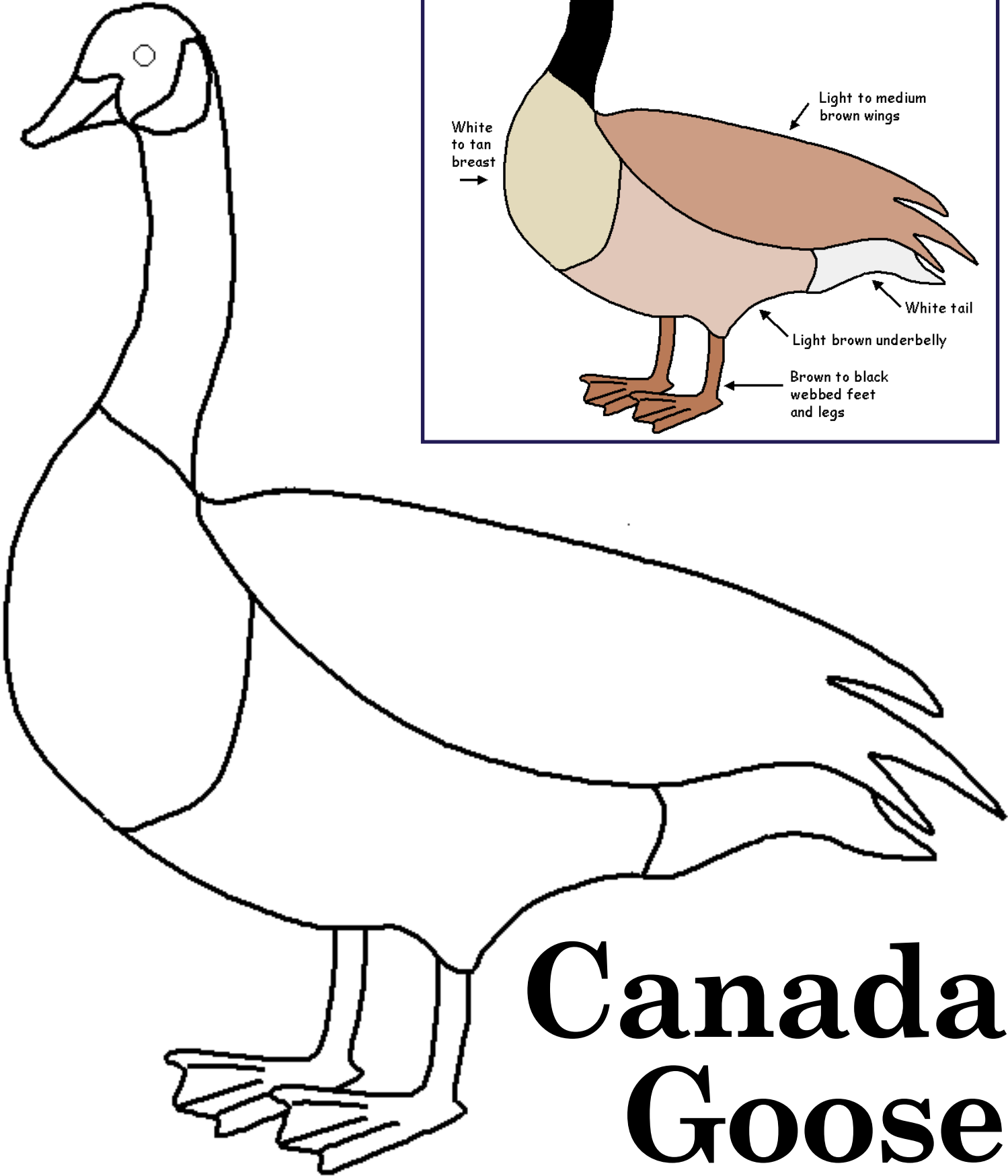
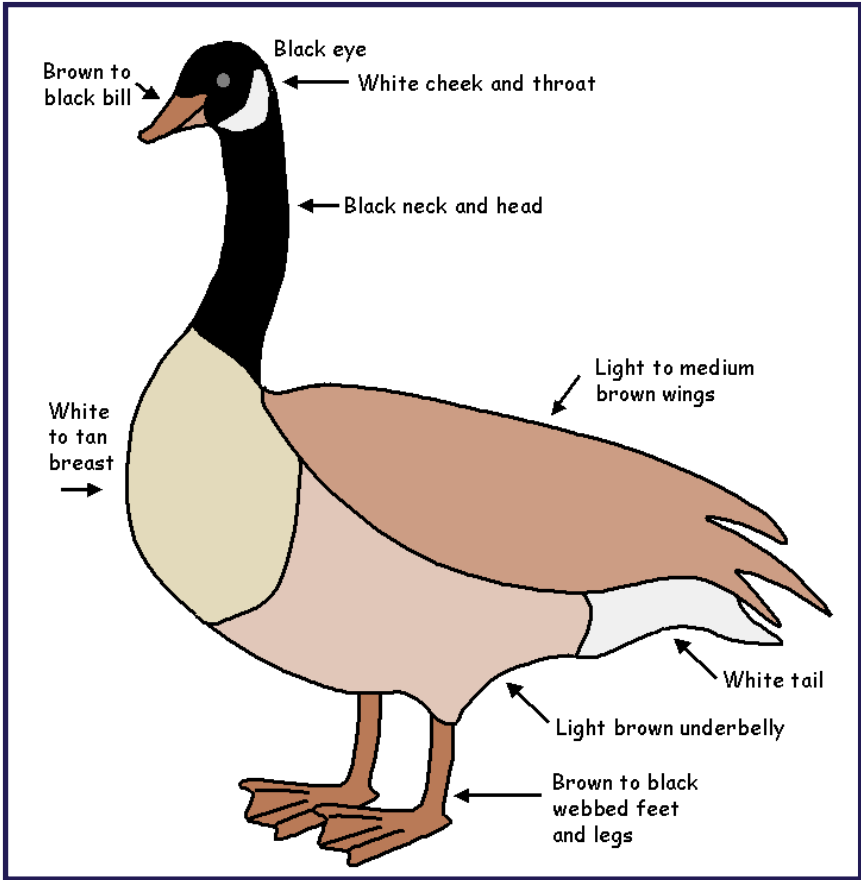
These geese are working as a team to get to where they are going. Count the number of Canada Geese in the photo. Write the number of geese in the box.

Supplies Needed for Today's Activity

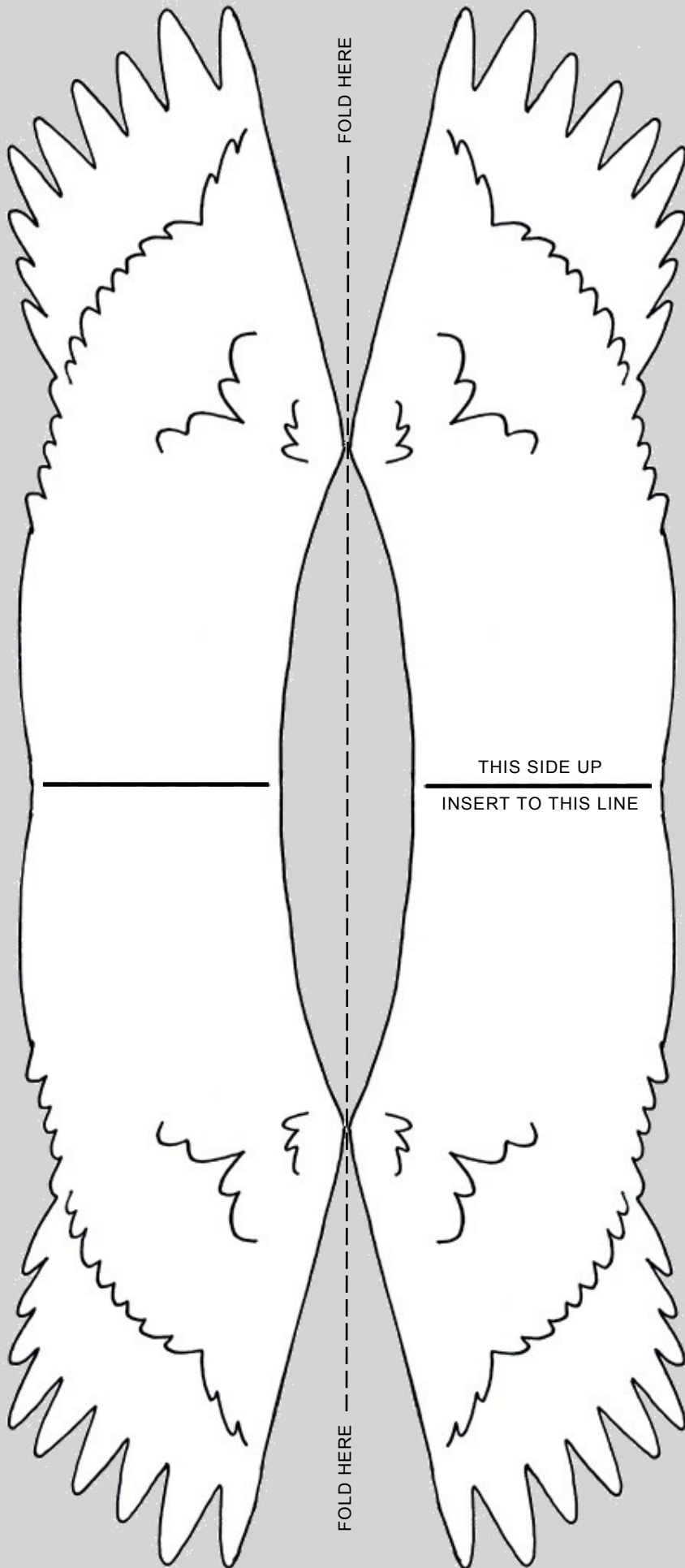
crayons
scissors
hole punch
string
glue or glue stick

Gather the supplies and follow the model to color the Canada Goose.

Then color and carefully cut out the parts to make your own flying goose.



Canada Goose



Make a flying Canada Goose:

- Color your goose.
- Carefully cut around the inside and outside edges, removing all of the gray area.
- Fold the pieces on the dotted lines so that each piece has two sides.
- Glue on the back of each piece to hold the sides together.
- Punch the hole on the goose's body.
- Cut along the line that says "slit here."
- Slip the wing through the slit.
- Tie a string through the hole to hang your goose.

