

## **Let's Talk Turkey! Workshop**

### Description and Curriculum Resources

<b>Location:</b>	Ohio River Museum, Marietta (Washington), Ohio
<b>Workshop:</b>	Let's Talk Turkey
<b>Availability:</b>	Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday September through April, by appointment
<b>Time Allowance:</b>	45 Minutes
<b>Cost:</b>	Add \$3.00 workshop fee to \$3.00 admission per student
<b>Grades:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> , adaptable to all Limit 25 students per program

#### **Description:**

Let's Talk Turkey!" is an action-filled educational workshop with information and activities featuring wild turkeys. Using the "Know Your Wild Turkey Tom" posters, students get an introduction in identifying the difference between toms, jakes, and hens. Real turkey beards, feathers, and spurs will be available for students to explore. This portion of the program is kept very simple and basic for 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. A more thorough discussion of the various parts will be discussed with older students.

Following a brief history on the turkey population from Native American times through present day, a 5-minute introductory video highlights the comeback of the turkey from the brink of extinction to the current day thriving population status.

Next, students help decide why particular parts are chosen to dress up a volunteer student during the "Dress a Turkey" activity. Example: PVC pipes slip over the arms representing hollow bird bones, a down vest for insulated, water-repellant feathers, and a beard for the tom's beard.

Finally, students make a turkey call, watch a 3-minute calling video, and practice various calls.

#### **Activity:**

Students (1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> grades) will make a plastic cup/yarn turkey call. Older students (4<sup>th</sup> and up) will make two calls - slate/corncob stick and a plastic film container/coffee straw call. Then everyone gets the opportunity to try calling in the turkeys!

#### **Science Academic Content Standards Addressed:**

##### **Life Science (Characteristics & Structure of Life)**

1<sup>st</sup>. Explore that animals have body parts that help to seek, find & take food (sharp vision, claws)

##### **Life Science (Diversity & Interdependence of Life)**

1<sup>st</sup>. Investigate that animals eat plants/other animals for food (snakes & coyotes eat pullet eggs)

3<sup>rd</sup>. Relate animal structures to their specific survival functions (e.g., obtaining food, escaping or hiding from enemies).

3<sup>rd</sup>. Describe how changes in an organism's habitat are sometimes beneficial and sometimes harmful.

#### **Life Science (Heredity)**

3<sup>rd</sup>. Compare the life cycles of different animals including birth to adulthood, reproduction and death (e.g., egg-tadpole-frog, egg-caterpillar-chrysalis-butterfly).

#### **Scientific Inquiry (Doing scientific Inquiry)**

2<sup>nd</sup>. Ask "How do you know" questions

#### **Life Science (Characteristics and Structures of Life)**

2<sup>nd</sup>. Explain that animals need air, water, food, & shelter to survive.

### **Turkey Glossary:**

**adaptation.** Adjustment to environmental conditions, modification of an organism or its parts that makes it more fit for existence under the conditions of its environment.

**beard.** The stiff area around the beak of a bird.

**biotic.** Relating to life.

**body covering.** Feature that covers the body, such as fur or feathers.

**body system.** A system of the body (i.e. digestive system, circulatory system).

**capacity.** The maximum amount or number that can be contained or accommodated.

**characteristic.** A distinguishing trait, feature, quality, or property.

**classification.** Systematic arrangement in groups or categories according to established criteria.

**climate.** The average course or condition of the weather at a place usually over a period of years as exhibited by temperature, wind velocity, and precipitation.

**community.** Interacting population that live in a defined habitat.

**conservation.** A careful preservation and protection of something; especially planned management of a natural resource to prevent exploitation, destruction, or neglect.

**consumer.** An organism requiring complex organic compounds for food, which it obtains by preying on other organisms or by eating particles of organic matter.

**diversity.** A great deal of variety.

**down.** Fine, soft feathers. Baby birds have down until their feathers grow in.

**ecological.** The interactions and relationships between organisms and their environment.

**ecosystem.** The complex of a community of organisms and its environment functioning as an ecological unit.

**egg.** Female gamete; ovum.

**environment.** The complex of physical, chemical, and biotic factors that act upon an organism or an ecological community and ultimately determine its form and survival.

**evidence.** Facts or observations on which a conclusion can be based.

**evolution (biological).** Changes in the genetic composition of a population through successive generations.

**feathers.** One of the light growths that cover a bird's skin. Feathers protect the bird's skins from injury and keep the bird warm.



**food chain.** An arrangement of the organisms of an ecological community according to the order of predation in which each uses the next usually lower member as a food source.

**food web.** The totality of interacting food chains in an ecological community; interacting food chains in an ecological community.

**fowl.** One of a group of birds that is used for food.

**gene.** A functional hereditary unit located at a particular point on a chromosome that controls or acts in the transmission of hereditary characteristics.

**habitability.** Suitable for a dwelling place.

**habitat.** The place or environment where a plant or animal naturally or normally lives and grows.

**hen.** A female bird or fowl.

**heredity.** The sum of the qualities and potentialities genetically derived from one's ancestors; the relation between successive generation, by which characteristics persist.

**life cycle.** The series of stages in form and functional activity through which an organism passes from fertilized ovum to the fertilized ovum of the next generation.

**life.** An organism that has the capacity of metabolism, growth, reaction to stimuli, and reproduction.

**natural selection.** The principle that in a given environment individuals having characteristics that aid survival will produce more offspring, and the proportion of individual having such characteristics will increase with each succeeding generation.

**natural.** Existing in, or produced by nature.

**nesting.** To build or occupy a nest; settle in.

**observe.** To watch carefully, especially with attention to details or behavior for the purpose of arriving at a judgement.

**organism.** An individual constituted to carry on the activities of life by means of organs separate in function but mutually dependent; a living being.

**parasite.** An organism living in, with or on another organism in which a parasite obtains benefits from a host that it usually injures.

**physical change.** A change in a substance that does not alter its chemical makeup.

**physical properties.** A property of a material that can be observed without changing the chemical makeup of the material.

**pollution.** A substance that, when added to the environment causes the environment to be harmful or unfit for living things.

**population.** All the plants or animals of the same kind found in a given area.

**predator.** An animal that lives by capturing prey as a means of maintaining life.

**prey.** An animal taken by a predator as food.

**property.** A quality or trait belonging to an individual or thing.

**reproduction.** The process by which organisms give rise to offspring and which fundamentally consists of the segregation of a portion of the parental body by a sexual or an asexual process, and its subsequent growth and differentiation into a new individual.

**scavenger.** An organism that feeds habitually on refuse or carrion.

**species.** A group of organisms consisting of similar individuals capable of exchanging genes or interbreeding.

**spur.** A part of a bird's leg that sticks out.

**tom.** A male bird or fowl.



**trait.** An inherited characteristic.

**turkey.** A large bird with brownish feathers that is raised for food. They can be wild or domestic.

The Ohio River Museum is operated by the Ohio Historical Society, a nonprofit organization that serves as the state's partner in preserving and interpreting Ohio's history, archaeology, and natural history. The Ohio River Museum is on the Ohio River in Marietta, Ohio.

