



# Poultry

## Activity Page #1—Breeds & Nutrition



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identify the following breeds of poultry:

<p>Originated in China. The most distinctive feature of this breed is the excessive plumage that covers leg and foot. The skin beneath the feathers is yellow.</p> 	<p>Originated in France. Is classified as a heavy breed and has a beard, muffs, feathered feet and 5 toes per foot, rather than the usual 4.</p> 	<p>It is the only chicken breed with official recognition from the Cuban national poultry association. Characterized by their stately carriage; pea comb; abundant, flowing hackle feathers and long, well-spread tail.</p> 	<p>One of the oldest domesticated fowl species in the world, this duck was already being kept by native people in Peru and Paraguay when the early Spanish explorers arrived. These warty faced ducks are large, heavy-bodied with long necks that can make them look like small geese.</p> 
<p>Originated on the Indonesian islands. They stand erect and rather than waddling, they run. Females usually lay about 300 to 350 eggs a year or more. These ducks do not fly and only rarely form nests or incubate their own eggs, often just drop their eggs wherever they happen to be.</p> 	<p>Was named for the French city where it originated from. Originally derived from the European Greylag Goose to meet the growing demand for the French delicacy Pté de foie gras - a dish made of goose or duck liver that has been specially fattened. Comes in Grey (original color), Buff and White varieties. Plumage is generally fuller and softer than that of the average farmyard goose. These heavy birds are not good fliers.</p> 	<p>This is an American breed of chicken developed in the 1870s. It was named after a tribe of indigenous people in North America. It is a dual-purpose breed, kept for its brown eggs and its yellow-skinned meat. It is a popular show bird, and has many color variants (often laced). They have a classic rounded shape.</p> 	
<p>This domesticated duck looks similar to other duck breeds, but are smaller in size. Initially used in hunting, where their own calls and quacks—which are characteristically high in pitch as a result of their small size, and especially loud —would attract wild ducks towards the hunter's guns. This practice has mostly been replaced with artificial duck calls, so this duck is now primarily kept as pets.</p> 	<p>This breed of domesticated geese descends from the wild swan goose. They often have a strongly developed basal knob on the upper side of the bill. The knob at the top of the beak is more prominent on males than females. These geese are a close cousin of the African goose, a heavier breed also descended from the swan goose. They appear in two varieties: a brown, similar to the wild swan goose, and white.</p> 	<p>This is one of the most popular show pigeon breeds out there. Distinctive with very large, turkey/peafowl-like tails. There are two kinds: the American which is smaller, clean-legged and plain-headed, and the Indian which is quite large, muffed, and has a crest on its head.</p> 	

# Poultry—Activity Page #1—Breeds & Nutrition—continued...

This chicken is a true bantam – a miniature bird with no corresponding large version – and is one of the oldest recorded British bantam breeds. It was the first poultry breed to have its own specialist club for enthusiasts. Today, they are among the most popular of bantam breeds. As a largely ornamental chicken, they lay tiny, white eggs and are not kept for meat production.

As a true bantam they have no large fowl counterpart. Males weigh an average of 22 oz (625 grams) and females 20 oz (570 g). Hens and cocks look very similar to one another. They have short backs, but full and convex breasts, with large wings that hang downwards. Their tails are full, and they carry them above the horizontal. Two colour variants are recognized, gold and silver; these have a base of either dark gold or whitish silver, evenly laced around the edges with black.

They are one of only a few chicken breeds in which the cocks are hen-feathered, meaning they have none of the long, sickle-shaped feathers common in most cocks that appear in the tail, neck and saddle. Due to the unique characteristic hen feathering, molecular biologists have found this bantam a useful model organism in the study of sex hormones. This is because they carry a mutation that causes the tissues of their skin to convert an unusually large amount of male sex hormones (androgens) into female sex hormones.



This very attractive breed of turkey is known for their beautiful red plumage. They are also known and popular for a full flavor, delicious meat and are considered as one of the best tasting heritage turkey breeds. This breed originated in the state of Kentucky. They were first bred there during the 1800s. A mature hen weights about 12 pounds and a mature tom can reach about 23 pounds.

These were the staple of the New England turkey scene before factory farmed turkeys became the norm (they are originally from Rhode Island). On an average, mature hens weight about 18 pounds and toms weight about 30 pounds.



**Nutrition** is a process by which a plant or animal obtains food and uses it. The term “nutrient” is applied to any chemical compound that aids in the support of animal life. The primary food nutrients required by all animals are: **Proteins, Carbohydrates (starch), Fats, Minerals, Vitamins, and Water**. Fill in the blanks below using these six nutrients:

\_\_\_\_\_ participates in nearly all body functions and is the most important nutrient, although oftentimes the most neglected aspect of feeding animals.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ can be considered regulators of an animal’s diet. Within an animal’s body, they turn things on and off as needed, adjust body temperature, and help process information.

\_\_\_\_\_ are necessary for growth, development of glands, muscles, hide, and hair.

\_\_\_\_\_ are the main source of energy in a ration. They are used to produce heat, energy, and fat in an animal’s body. However \_\_\_\_\_ furnish 2.25 times more heat and energy per kilogram.

**Fill in the blanks >** Baby chicks should be given feed within \_\_\_\_\_ hours after hatching to prevent loss of weight and vitality.

Chicks will double their weight four to five times in the first \_\_\_\_\_ weeks of life. This tremendous growth demands proper nutrition. A commercially prepared chick starter is a good way to provide a complete nutritional package. Chick starter is usually fed for the first \_\_\_\_\_ weeks of life. Commercial chick starter is approximately \_\_\_\_\_% protein and can be medicated or un-medicated.

**Question:** Should turkey and duck starter would be higher or lower in protein content.? \_\_\_\_\_

What **mineral** is important for laying hens to have in adequate amounts in their diets for eggshell formation? \_\_\_\_\_