

Turkey Wall Flashcards



I like to make monthly flashcards to play interactive games on my classroom walls. Since I usually have a “tree” somewhere on a wall, I play many of the games using it. This arrangement works perfectly for November, when I use these cute little turkeys. Wild turkeys roost in trees at night. At sundown, they waddle on down to their favorite one, and one-by-one they fly up to take their roost for the night. I use dress maker pins (or those fabric glue-on hooks, stapled instead of glued) to hang the cards from.

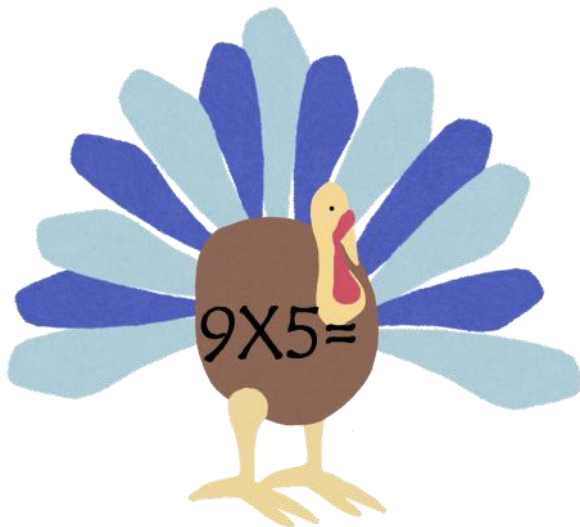
These “Read and Make” Directions turn this little craft into a reading comprehension assignment, making all of us happy!

Preparation

1. Run off the tracers (page 3). Make enough sets so everyone in the group can work on something at the same time. (1 Set for every 3-4 kids is usually perfect.)
2. Prepare the materials and set them out where they are easily accessible.
3. A tree pattern is included (page 4) if you wish to make a large classroom tree on your wall. Just project it onto a sheet of butcher paper, paint it, and you’re ready to go. (You can find more ideas on page 5.)

How to Use

- The reading level of your students will determine how much support you’ll need to give them to get started. Older students should be able to complete the activity independently. Younger students may need to practice reading the directions together with you. My little firsties usually needed to listen to the directions, act them out, and then read the chart together several times before they were ready to go off on their own. I didn’t let my small group kids go until they read the directions independently. Do whatever works for your situation.

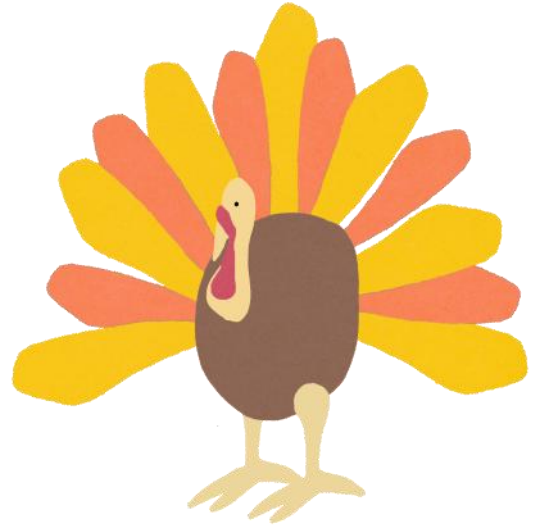


- The directions can also be set up as a center job.
- Of course, you don’t have to use the turkeys for wall sized flashcards. You can use them anyway that works good for you!

Read & Make Turkeys

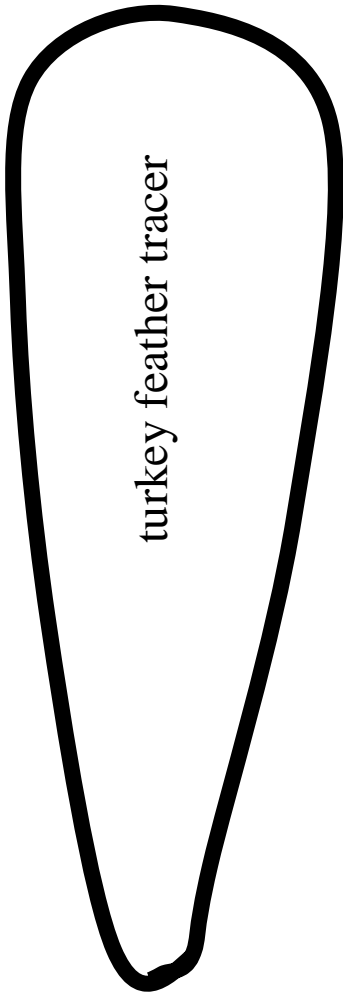
Materials:

- 6x6 inch brown construction paper
- 6x6 inch tan construction paper
- 6x6 inch construction paper in a variety of colors such as red, orange, blue, yellow, green, pink, purple, gray
- turkey part tracers
- paste
- scissors

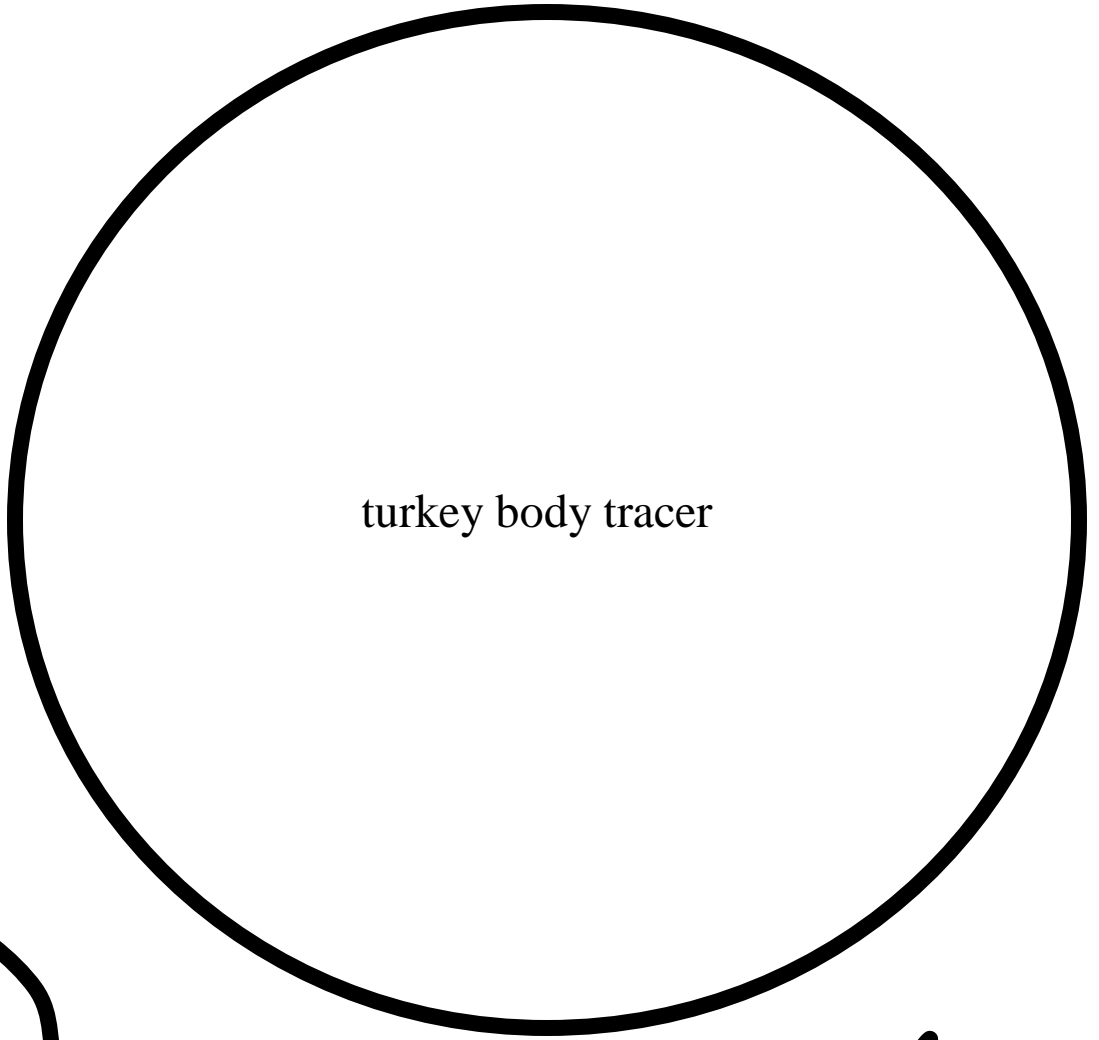


Directions:

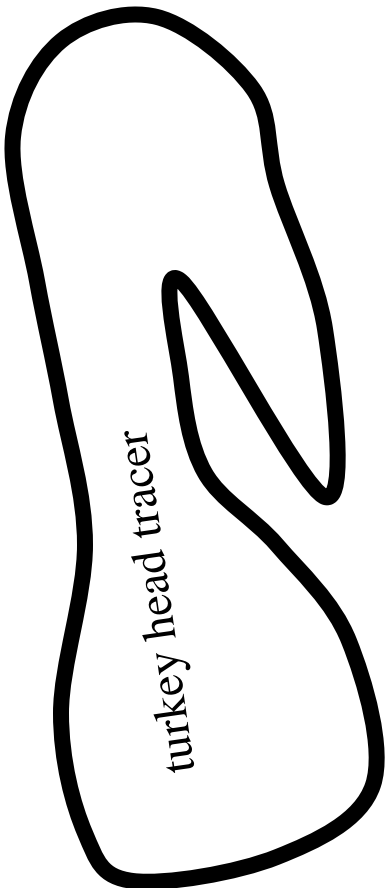
1. Get a piece of brown construction paper for the turkey body, tan paper for the neck and legs, and choose some colors for the tail feathers.
2. Trace around the body stencil on the brown or gray paper. Cut it out.
3. Trace around the neck and leg stencils on the tan paper. Cut them out. (Make sure you have two legs.)
4. Trace around the feather using any color(s) you choose. You'll need 10-15 feathers.
5. Cut a red wattle for the turkey's neck from a scrap of red paper.
7. Use the picture (above right) to help you arrange the turkey parts and paste them together. Be sure one leg is pasted to the back of the body and the other is pasted to the front. The tail feathers should overlap on the back of the turkey's body. Paste the wattle on the turkey's beak or down his neck. Add an eye. Set it aside to dry.
8. Clean up your mess.



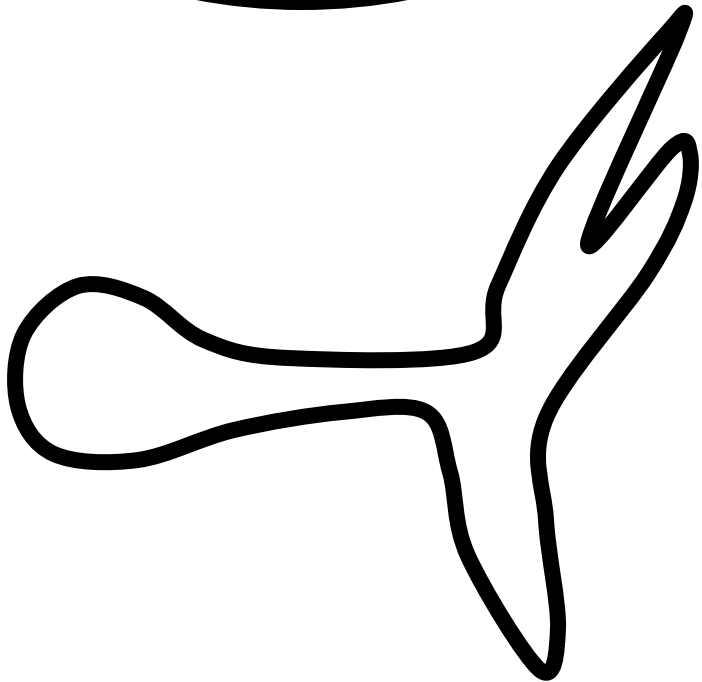
turkey feather tracer



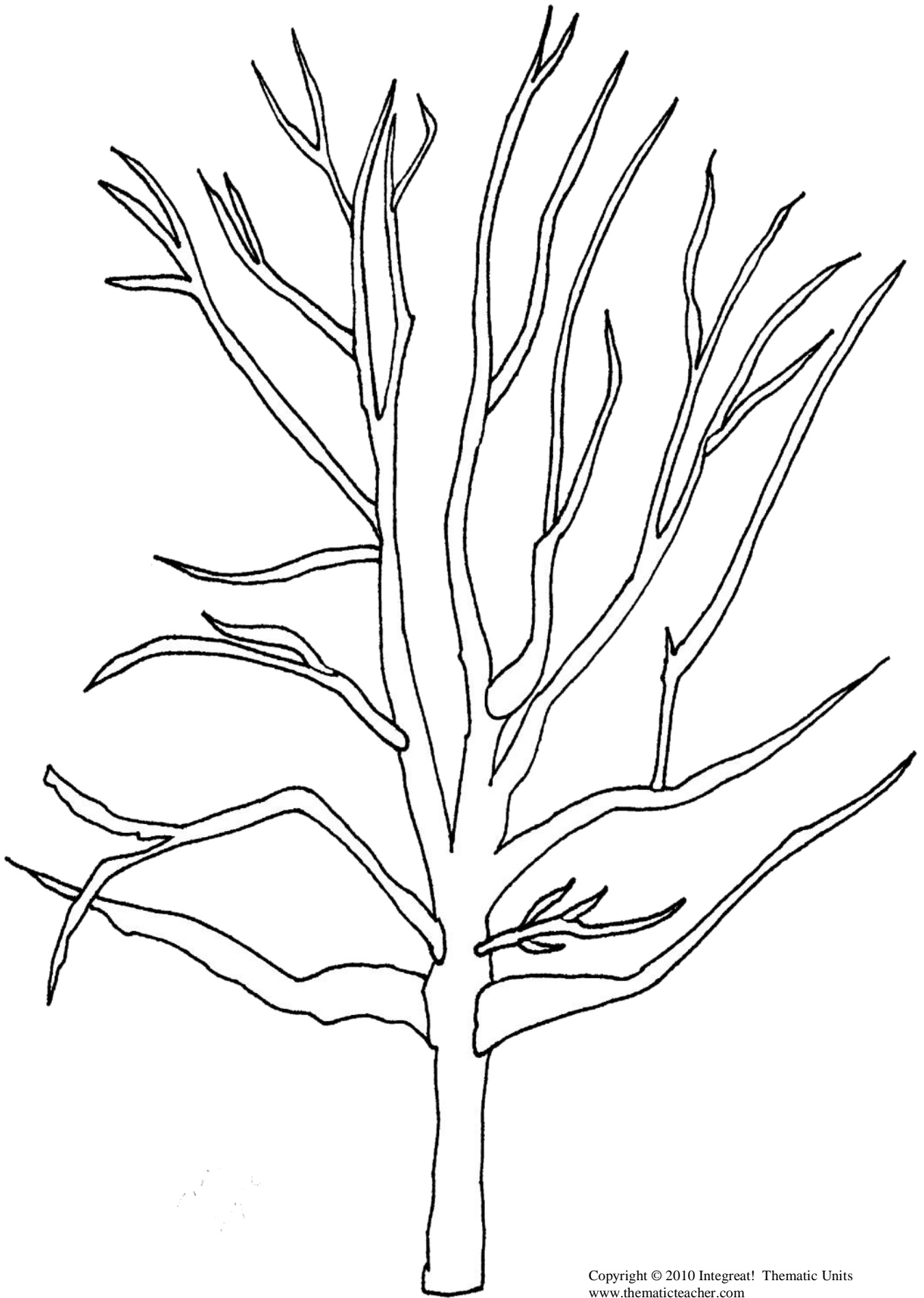
turkey body tracer



turkey head tracer



turkey leg tracer



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Tips and Suggestions

Benjamin Franklin once recommended the turkey for the nation's national bird. He felt it was a very unique avian that had made a special contribution to our country. It's not clear if he meant it seriously or if anyone ever really considered it, but turkeys are pretty impressive animals. If you have a tree on your classroom wall, you can use it to hang this month's wall cards. Every day right around sunset, wild turkeys make their way to their favorite roosting trees. They take turns flying up where they settle themselves for the night. Use your classroom tree to roost your birds.



To make the tree:

Project the tree image (page 4) and trace it onto butcher paper, or a classroom mural. It's best at 5-6 feet in height. Hang it on the wall before you cut it out, staple some newspapers under the bottom and overlap them on the floor, so that your students can paint it with tempera paints. Mix up several colors of brown paint in large, disposable cups. Start with plain brown, and then add a little white, yellow, or black in each cup to give you 4-5 different shades of brown. Let each child choose one color to paint one limb, starting from the top and working down. After it's dry, you can take it down, cut it out and staple it to your wall. Stick some pins on the branches of the tree and around the bottom to hang the wall cards on.

You can also make lovely classroom trees out of twisted brown butcher paper. Tear long strips of butcher paper and twist each one into a tight form. Twist several together to form the trunk, a couple together to form big limbs, and then use the rest as branches. Staple it all together on the wall. They are quick, easy and look great.

You can keep your tree up all year long and change the leaves with the seasons. You can hang monthly wall cards on them, no matter what the theme. I especially like having one in the reading area, but they work well just about anywhere.

Using Wall Flashcards

Use monthly wall cards to practice repetitive skills such as math facts and formulas, sight words, vocabulary, science and social studies facts, etc. Hang them on the wall or lay them out on the floor like a life-sized game board. To use this art project as flashcards for the wall, just write the word, fact, or formula that you want the children to rehearse in the center and then laminate, cut out, and punch a hole in the top so it can hang on a pin.

You can find many fun [flashcard games here](#). Some of them were designed to use with wall sized flashcards.

Whatever you do with a flashcard you can do with wall cards. The children will be able to think up fun new games to play with them. You can use the cards whenever you need a quick 3-5 minute activity or as the children line up for something. It may also be used as a free time task for those who finish early, small group instruction, or small groups can work with classroom volunteers. It's a fun way to practice tedious drills and you might be surprised at how effective they are when children use them independently to help each other. Kids are GREAT teachers!