

# Science Story Adventures



## Ducks and Ducklings

### Learning outcomes

» Students know how to observe and describe similarities and differences in the appearance and behavior of plants and animals. (Kindergarten - Life Sciences)

» Students know different plants and animals inhabit different kinds of environments and have external features that help them thrive in different kinds of places. (Grade 1 - Life Sciences)

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» Students know that organisms reproduce offspring of their own kind and that the offspring resemble their parents and one another. (Grade 2 - Life Sciences)

*From: California's Science Content Standards*

### Books we read

*Mama's Little Duckling* by Marjorie Blain Parker

*Waddle, Waddle, Quack, Quack, Quack* by Barbara Anne Skalak

### Activities we did

» We looked at photos of the inside of a duck egg and talked about how a duckling develops.

» We looked at various duck specimens to determine what characteristics help them survive in their habitat.

» We talked about the differences in appearance of male and female ducks.

» We listened to and imitated different duck calls.

### Today's craft: Duck and Ducklings



### You will need:

» Duck and Ducklings template (included)

» Cardstock

» Crayons or colored pencils

» Scissors

» Yellow yarn (nubby type works best)

» Elmer's or craft glue

### Directions:

1. Print out the Duck and Ducklings template on cardstock.
2. Color in the template.
3. Cut several short pieces of yarn.
4. Put glue on the ducklings' bodies and lay the pieces of the yarn on them to represent their downy feathers.

# Want to find out more?

Here is a selection of further resources to explore in the Naturalist Center, in the public library or at home. Please ask if you can't find what you're looking for.

## Books

*All Night Near the Water* by Jim Arnosky. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL696 .A52 A76 1999

A mother duck and her ducklings spend their first night near a pond. The young ones explore the wonders of the night before eventually settling in under the protection of their mother's wings.

*Ducks and Ducklings* by Anita Ganeri.

An introduction to the life cycle of a duck for the very young. Part of the "Animals and Their Babies" series, which introduces readers to early reference skills with its table of contents, index and narrative non-fiction style.

*Ducks, Geese & Swans* by John Bonnett Wexo. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL696 .A52 D83 1989

Vibrant photos and illustrations and an engaging text provide an overview the characteristics and life history of ducks, geese and swans. Part of the "Zoobooks" series.

*El Pato* por Angela Royston. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL696 .A5 R6918 1988

With delicate illustrations, this book outlines the life history of ducks, including reproduction, parental care and learning to live on their own.

*Pond & River* by Steve Parker. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QH 541.5 .P63 P37 1988

Delve into the world of ponds and rivers--from the variety of plants and animals found there to how to explore them using different types of equipment. Includes a section on waterfowl, which inhabit ponds and rivers. Part of the "Eyewitness" series.

## DVDs

*Pond & River*. Nat. Ctr. QH591.5 .P63 P66 2007

This "Eyewitness" series DVD explores the world of ponds and rivers from small insects to ducks and other waterfowl.

## Websites

All About Birds

Managed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, this is an online guide to the birds of North America, which in addition to information about various birds, includes photos, videos and audio recordings of bird calls.

<http://www.allaboutbirds.org/>

ARKive

Includes information, photos and videos about ducks (as well as other animals) from around the world.

<http://www.arkive.org/>

BioKIDS Critter Catalog

Includes information about and photos of a variety of different kinds of ducks found in North America.

<http://www.biokids.umich.edu/critters/>

National Geographic Kids: Mallard Ducks

Information and photos on one of the most common types of ducks in North America.

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/animals/creaturefeature/mallard-ducks/>

