

Session title	Christmas with a twist	
Key Q	What does duck do?	
Session description	Join our Elf for a unique learning experience packed full of festive cheer. This session combines an interactive look at the day in the life of a duck and involves lots of movement, dance, singing and storytelling. Participants will finish off by making a bird-themed craft to take home with them plus our elves hand out a storybook for each child.	
Key Stage suitability	Early Years	
Duration	1 hour	

Curriculum links	3- and 4-year-olds will be learning to... - Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials. - Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties. - Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary. - Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things. Children in reception will be learning to... - Explore the natural world around them. - Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside. - Recognise some environments that are different from the one in which they live. - Understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them.		
Learning outcomes	Most learners will...	More able learners will...	
	- Be able to look closely at similarities and differences between bird species. - Be able to identify that ducks and other birds live in habitats to which they are suited.	- Be able to talk about why and how things happen within a bird's daily life. - Be able to describe how wetland habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals using more scientific language.	
Key vocabulary	Adaptations Similarities Differences	Beak, feeding Feather, waterproof, preening Display	Webbed feet Habitat/home Nest, egg, hatching

Session Outline	Time
Introduction	5 mins
Learners are introduced to the key question (What does duck do?) and the wetlands	
Activity 1: Differences and display	5 mins
Learners investigate male and female bird appearances through vocabulary and acting out	
Activity 2: Eggs and life cycle	5 mins
Learners handle wooden eggs, and act out being a duckling	
Activity 3: Feathers and preening	5 mins
Learners observe bird flight feathers closely and learn about feather care	

Activity 4: Story – Where's my quack?	5 mins
Learners listen to and take part in the story 'Where's my quack'	
Activity 5: Feeding and moving	10 mins
Learners act out bird feeding techniques and take part in the mucky duck walk	
Activity 6: Sing song	5 mins
Learners sing the '5 Little ducks' song	
Plenary	20 mins
Learners take part in a craft activity and receive a small gift to take back to school	