

History

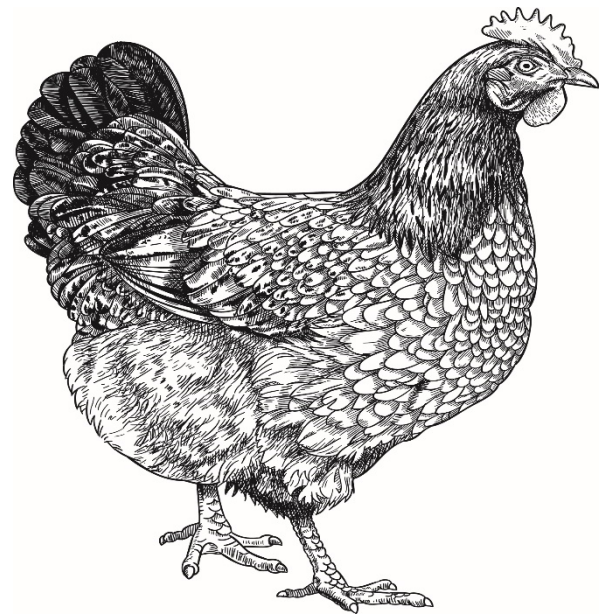


Find out about Poultry Cottage's past...

Hello! Welcome to Poultry Cottage. My name is Tom and I was the **Poultry-keeper** (say *pole-tree*) here just over 150 years ago. That means I took care of the hens, ducks, turkeys and geese who lived in the very grand Fowl House just down the path.

The Fowl house was built in 1861 by John Naylor, a rich Liverpool banker. Keeping poultry was a hobby made very popular by Queen Victoria and so John gave the Fowl House to his daughter Georgina... as her birthday present!

Georgina was in charge of the Fowl House as it was seen as a 'woman's hobby'; she collected and sold the eggs laid by the poultry but I had the messy job of clearing out their poo - Georgina didn't want to get her dress dirty!



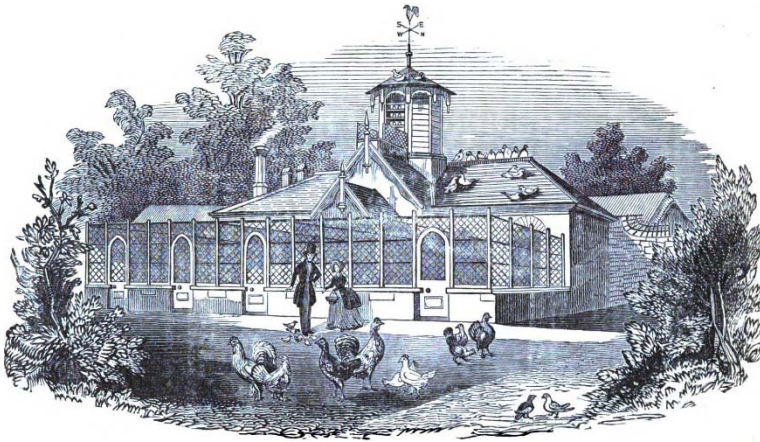
Facts:

Ornamental poultry were more exotic breeds of chickens, ducks and other fowl introduced from abroad. They were often bred for show or pets rather than for eggs or meat.

An **aviary** (say *ay-va-ree*) is a large cage where birds could roam; different from the smaller enclosures or cages where the birds couldn't properly spread their wings. The Fowl House here had its own yard and storm sheds so that the birds could roam even in wet weather.

In the Fowl House, each type of poultry, large or small, had its own carefully designed nesting box and the birds were even kept separate when we allowed them into the yard to scratch or have a swim about on the pond.





The Aviary at Windsor Castle

Fact:

A **pullet** was a young hen, especially one under one year old.

A **cockerel** is a young male chicken.

Sadly the Fowl House fell into ruin by the time of the First World War in 1914. The Leighton estate was sold in 1931 to a man called Major Charles Ackers; he was interested in forestry but not in poultry and so the Fowl House was just left to decay. Luckily the Landmark Trust bought the Fowl House and my cottage (the one you're staying in today) in 1988 and restored both buildings using traditional materials and methods.

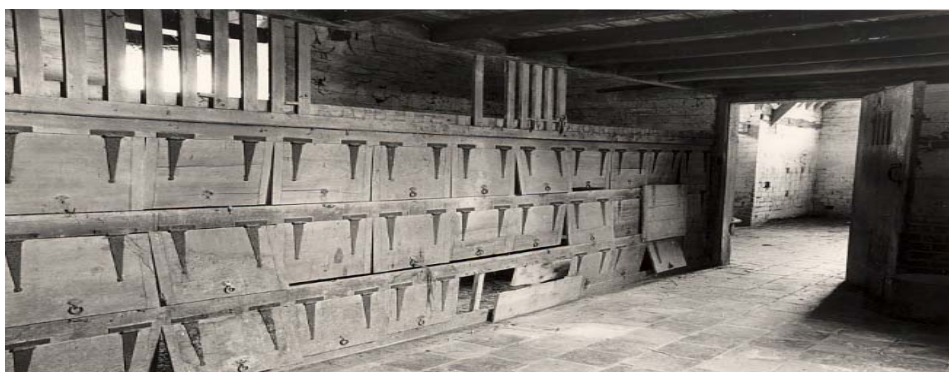
Queen Victoria set the fashion for keeping ornamental birds in fancy houses of their own -who'd have thought a chicken would have a better house than a human! She built a really fine Poultry House or **Aviary** (say ay-va-ree) at Windsor in the 1840's

The Queen was given 5 **pullets** and 2 **cockerels** of a breed from China which came to be known as Cochin; they caused a bit of a sensation and a craze called 'Cochin Mania' started – this lasted for 10 years, and poultry breeding became a very popular hobby.



Cochin chicken – see her “baggy trousers” and fluffy feet!

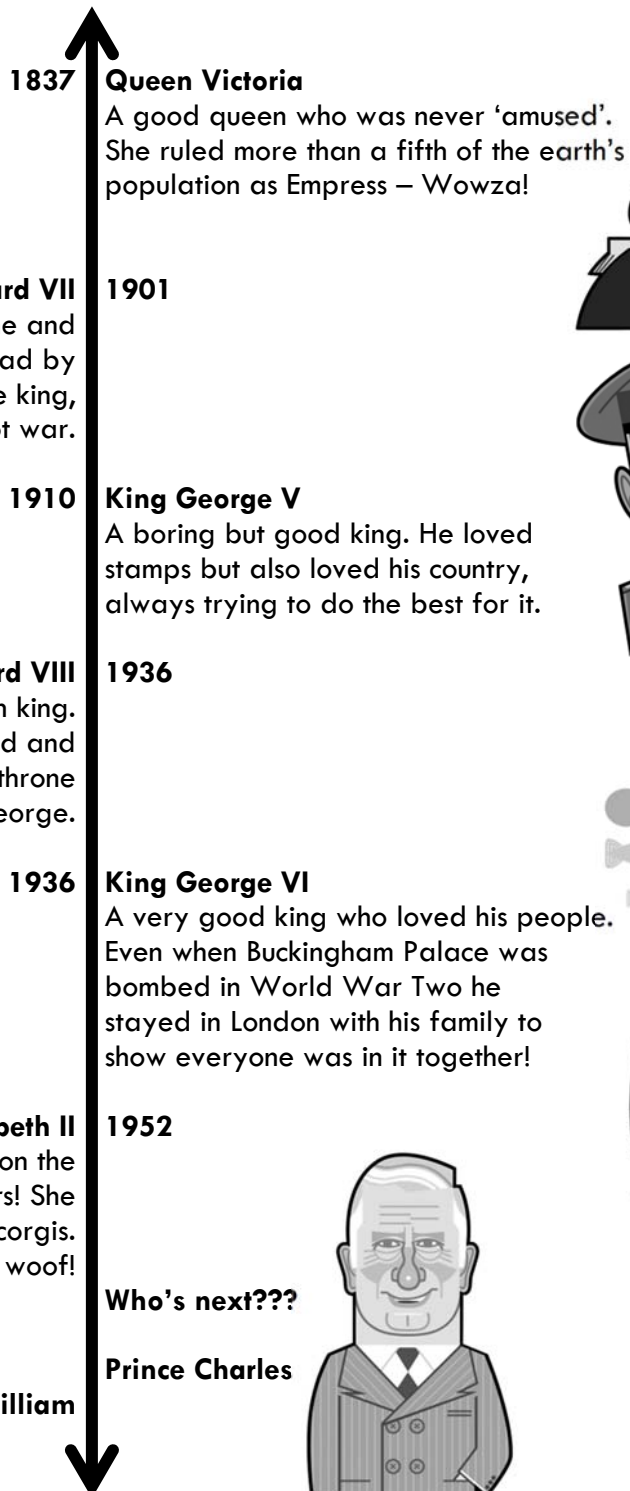
Have you taken a look inside the fowl house yet? Can you guess which types of birds were kept in which part?



Unruly Rulers

Who were the Saxe-Coburgs and Windsors?

Saxe-Coburg was the surname of German Prince Albert who was Queen Victoria's husband. When Victoria died **Saxe-Coburg** continued as the royal family surname. It changed to **Windsor** in 1917 because England was fighting against Germany in World War One and the King was worried British people wouldn't like a German royal family anymore - so he changed them to **Windsors**, after the castle.





Meet Queen Victoria

– who ruled when Tom lived here.



Hi Vicky!

So when did you become queen?

I became queen on the 20 June 1837 when I was 18.

What's your nickname?

Some people call me The Grandmother of Europe. I had 9 children who married different European princes and princesses. I had 42 grandchildren in total!

What is your favourite thing to do?

I loved visiting Scotland. I even built a castle so that I could go all the time!

What is the naughtiest thing you've ever done?

How dare you, I am never naughty. Everyone must be well behaved at all times.



What does Poultry Cottage look like?

Circle some of the words you think could be used to describe the Fowl House.

Which building do you prefer from the outside, Poultry Cottage or the Fowl House?

Does Poultry Cottage look similar to nearby buildings?

Castle

Pretty

Stone

Symmetrical

Square

Friendly

Tall

Industrial

Brick

Home

Elegant

Low

Poultry Cottage, the house which you're staying in, was built quite a bit earlier than the Fowl House but it was smartened up in 1861 with new stone windows and chimney pots (possibly left over from the main hall!) so it kept up with the chickens' fancy new house next door.

Did you know that almost no other building like the Fowl House exists any longer, especially with its bird cages still there – even Queen Victoria's **aviary** (say ay-va-ree) was split into cottages a long time ago?

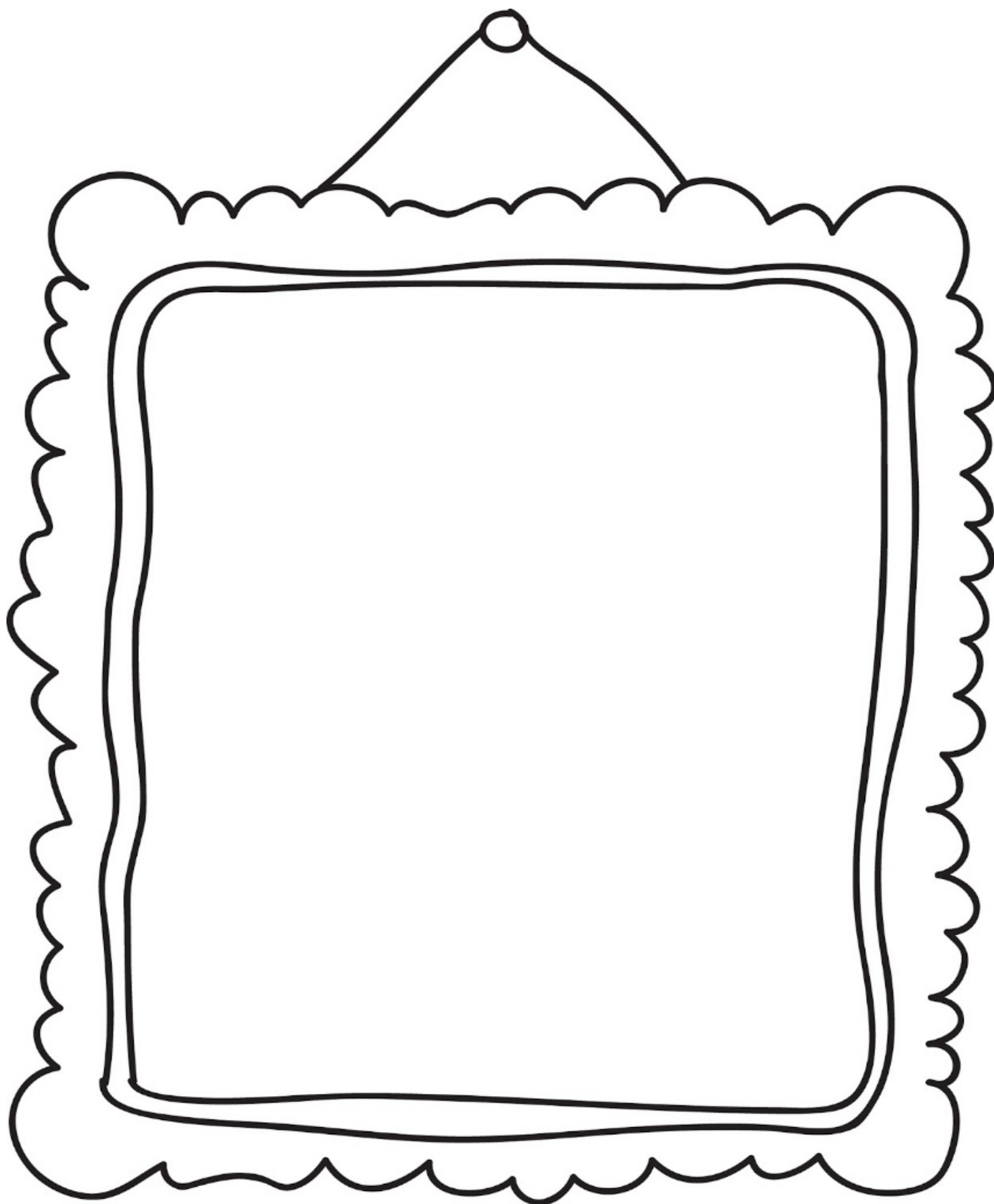
If you kept chickens or other birds, what kind of a home would you design for them?



Buildings are quite easy to draw. They are usually made up from lots of geometric shapes, like squares, triangles and circles.

Have a go at drawing the front of Poultry Cottage or the Fowl House if you'd rather.

Please tell an adult where you are going so they don't worry about where you are!



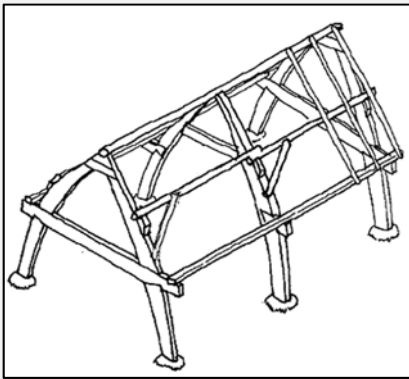


What is the Fowl House made from?

Fact:

The simplest house frame was a Cruck. A curved tree was cut in two pieces along its length. You needed one cruck at each end of the building and one in the middle. This created your frame, which you then added to and filled in with mud walls and a straw thatched roof.

A Cruck frame was quick to build but it had not much room upstairs.

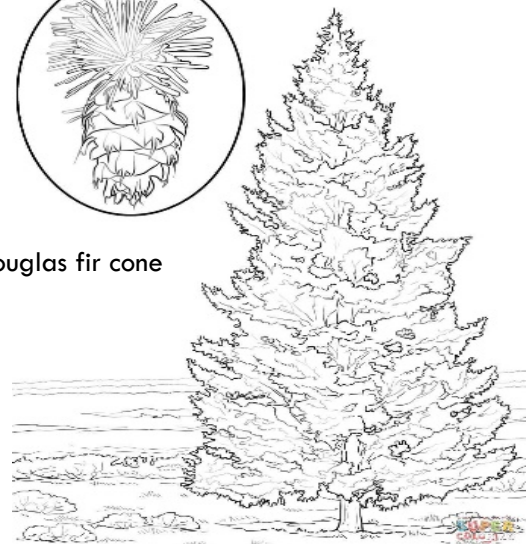


The Fowl House is built with a wooden frame. Buildings with wooden frames are quite rare today. Most were pulled down to make way for more modern building. They caught fire easily too. Timber houses were quick and cheap to build (timber is wood used for building).

The timber from Douglas fir trees was the used for building here because it was grown on the estate. Douglas fir is a soft wood and is common in the UK. It is good for building with because it grows very straight and tall.



Douglas fir cone



Next time you go for a walk, see if you can spot one.

Over time, timber framed houses started to look more like boxes, with a triangle for the roof. People wanted to have proper rooms upstairs.

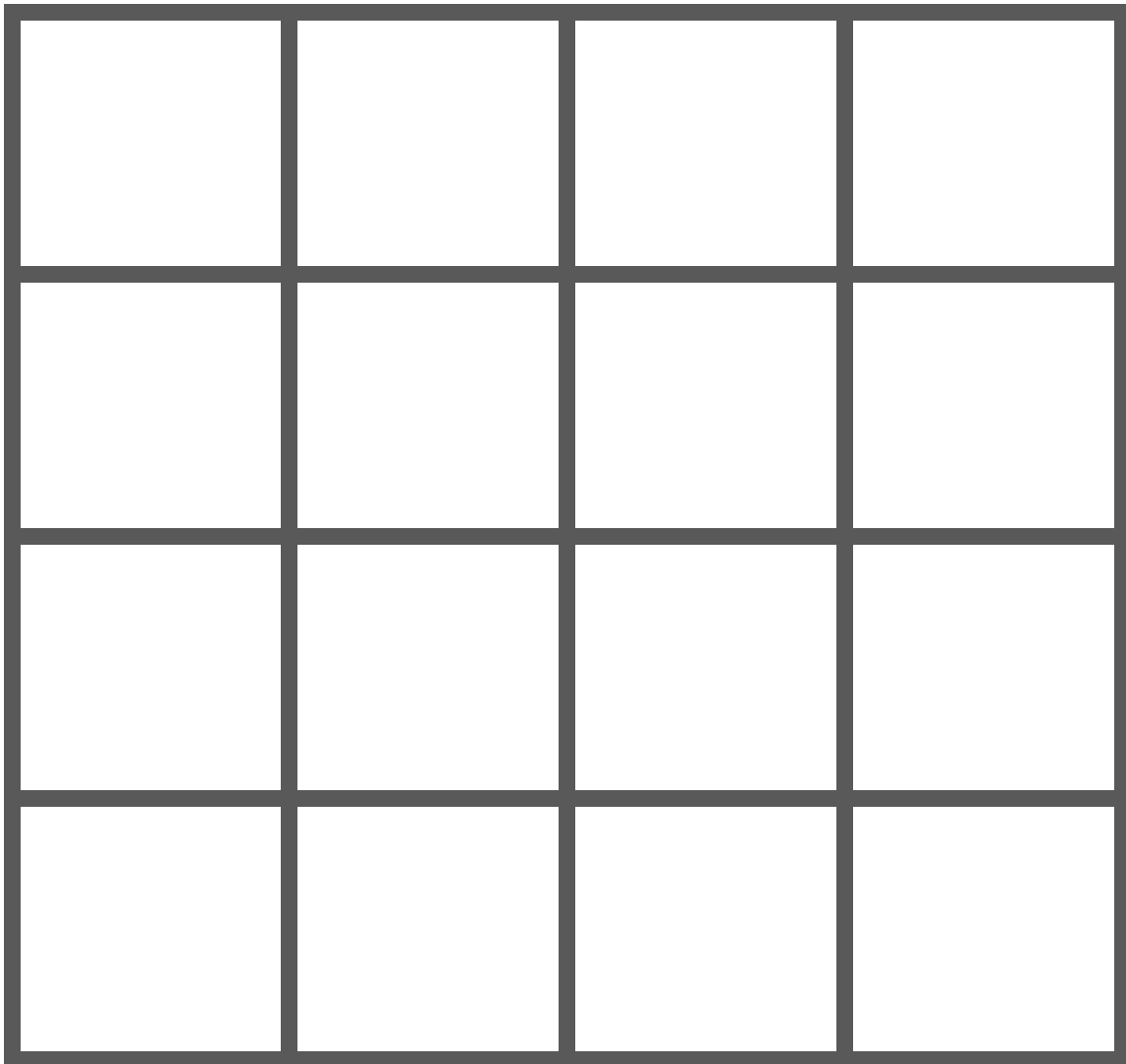
This is a picture of Langley Gatehouse, also owned by Landmark. The carpenter has made lovely patterns inside the basic box frame as decoration (say 'dec-or-ayshun').





The walls between the sections of timber frame were mostly made of mud, with bits of straw and perhaps a bit of cow or pony poo although the Fowl House used far less smelly yellow bricks instead!

If the grid below is your timber frame – design a pattern to make it more decorative. The carpenters were clever people and could make curves out of straight pieces of wood – so you can be as creative as you like! You can add windows and doors if you like.



What other building materials can you find outside and inside both Poultry Cottage and the Fowl House?

Circle what you can see and note down where you found them.

Stone

Wood

Metal

Flint

Brick

Glass

Plastic

Clay

Concrete

Ceramic



Some fun facts about the birds who would have lived here...

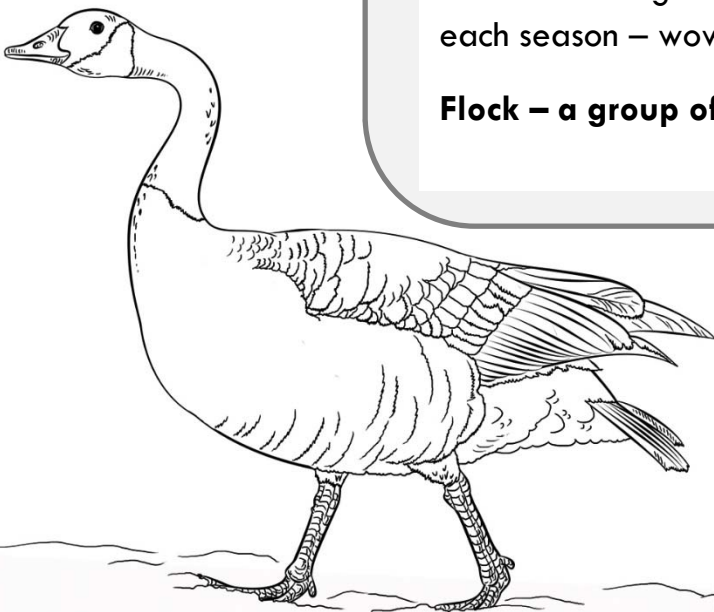
Facts - Geese:

A **flock** of geese fly in a 'V' pattern. If one goose is injured, other geese will stay with it until it dies or is ready to re-join the flock.

Geese kept as pets can live for 20 to 25 years.

Geese who migrate (say *my-grate*) can fly up to 3000 miles each season – wow, they must get tired!

Flock – a group of the same bird living together

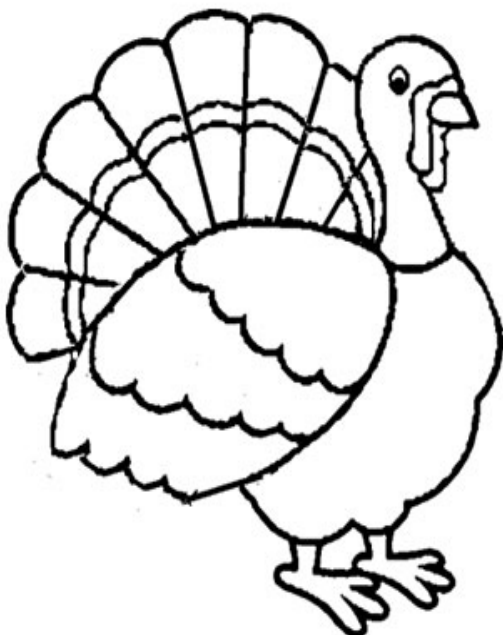


Facts - Turkey:

Male turkeys are called toms and females are hens; you can tell if they are a boy or a girl by looking at their poo! Females make spiral shaped poo and males make poo shaped like the letter 'J'!

The colour of a male turkeys head and throat will change depending on his mood.

Turkeys are omnivores meaning they eat both plants and animals



Colour us in!

Quest



Follow this quest to find out more about Poultry Cottage and the Fowl House

Go outside the front door and look up towards the roof of the Fowl House. **What is the roof made from?**

Can you find this chimney on Poultry Cottage?

Does the Fowl House have a chimney?



Fact:

The Victorians loved decorative touches, this can be seen in the use of pretty chimney stacks and roof **finials** (say *fin-ee-alls*) at Poultry Cottage.

A **finial** is a decoration added to the top, end or corner of a building. It can be made of stone, wood or metal.



Can you find the date stone on the Fowl House?

Now work out how many years old it is.

Is there anything else interesting that you've found? Draw a picture in the box and write about it below. What about the windows in the Fowl House?

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.....
.....
.....

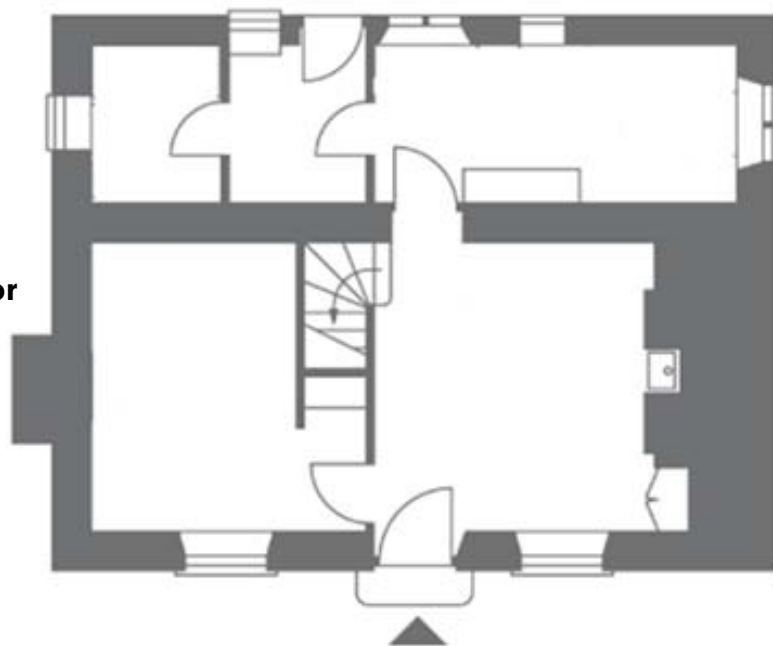




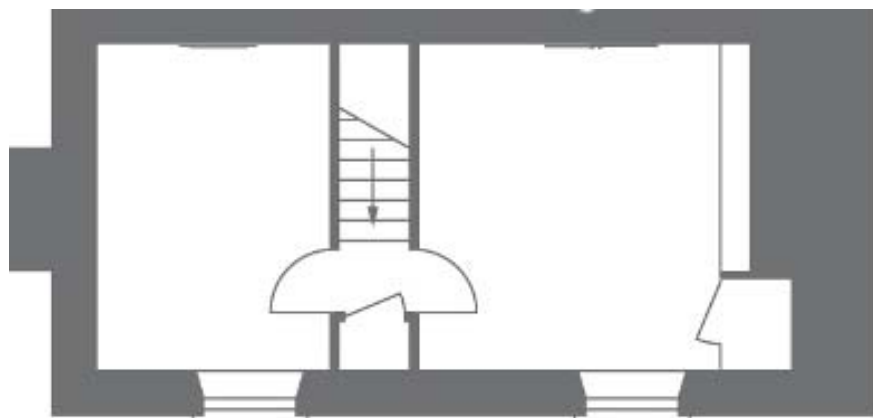
Living in Poultry Cottage

The floorplan of a building is a map of the rooms. Poultry Cottage has two floors. The plan below shows you the shape of each room. Take a walk around and write on the plan what each room is used for.

Ground floor



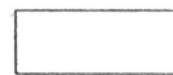
First floor



We use these symbols to show where beds, tables and bathrooms are. Draw the symbols on to the floorplans to show where the furniture is.



Bed



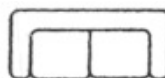
Rectangular (or a round) table



Bathroom



Cooker



Sofa



Kitchen sink



Can you find an example of each of these things inside Poultry Cottage. Describe, or draw the object when you find it.

Your favourite chair

Your favourite window

Draw the pattern of a rug on the floor

Draw a picture of the outside of Poultry Cottage.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing or writing.



Can you answer these questions correctly?

1. Which Queen made keeping poultry fashionable?

Elizabeth

Victoria

Mary

Anne

2. Which of these would you not have found in the Fowl House?

Rabbits

Chickens

Geese

Ducks

3. Where did Queen Victoria build her aviary?

London

Cardiff

Windsor

Edinburgh

4. Who was the Fowl House built for?

Georgina

Sarah

Rebecca

Jane

5. Which wood was used for the timber frame of the Fowl House?

Oak

Douglas Fir

Horse chestnut

Sycamore

6. Which estate does Poultry Cottage sit in?

Broughton

Clyne

Leighton

Sketty

7. In the spring, many woods are full of blue flowers. What are these blue flowers called?

Tulips

Bluebells

Snowdrops

Daffodils

8. What is a pullet?

A male chicken

A young female hen

A goose

A duck

9. What is a male turkey called?

A richard

A tom

A joe

A bob

10. What was the name of the breed of chicken which caused a stir in the 1840s?

Cochin

Silkie

Plymouth Rock

Yokohama

To find the answers skip two pages...



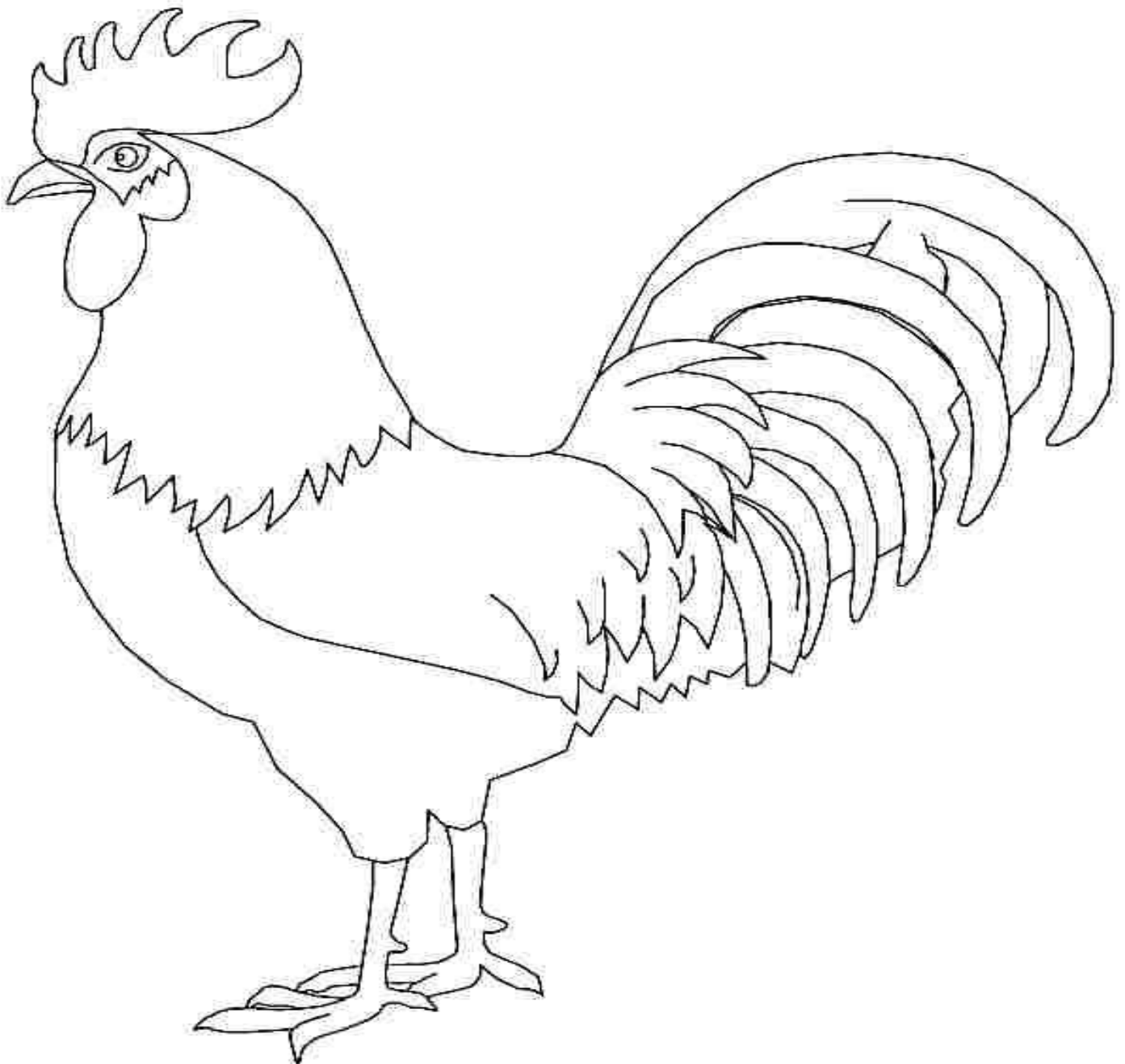
Colour in the cockerel below

Chicken Facts:

There are 19 billion chickens in the world!

Most chickens swallow gravel to help mash up their food.

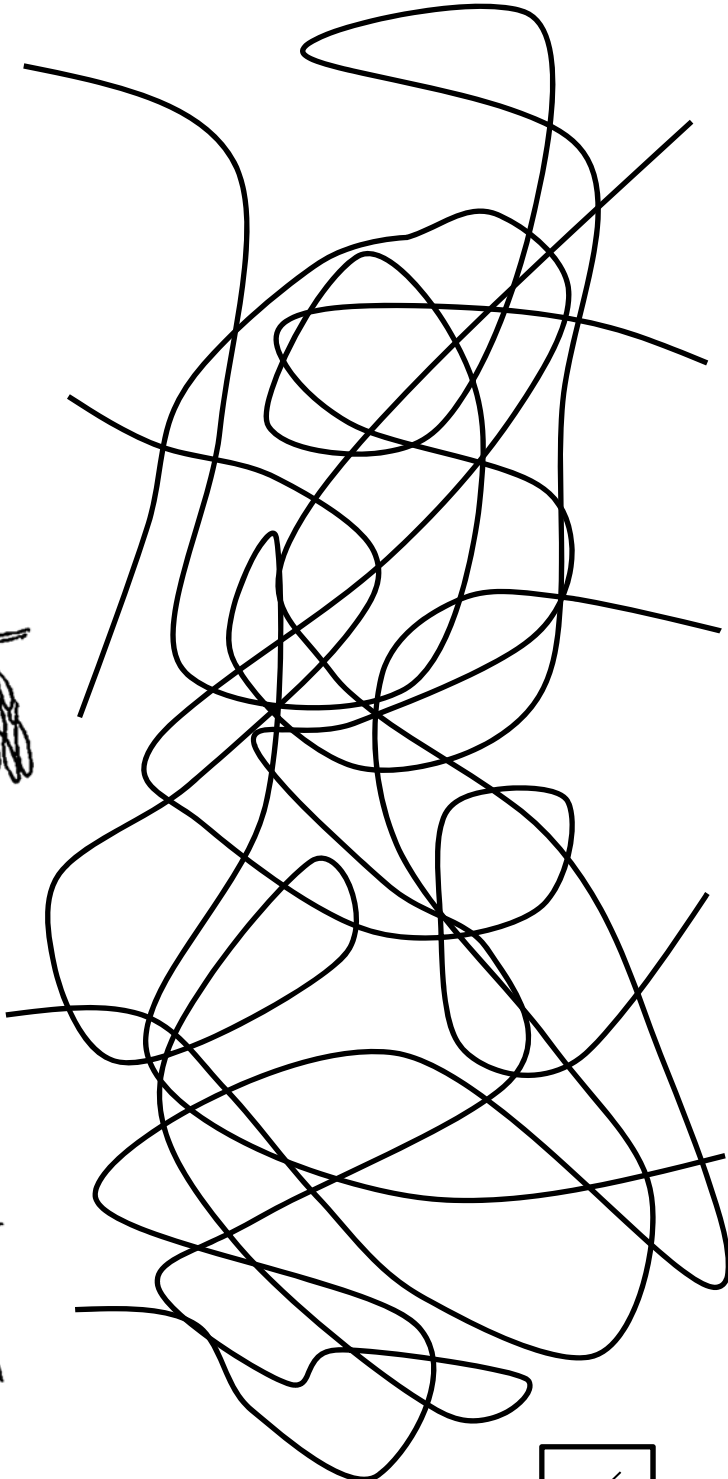
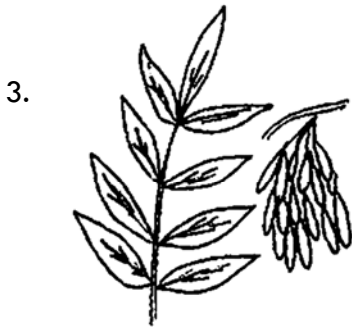
A healthy chicken can lay up to 245 eggs a year – that's a lot of omelettes!





Which leaf belongs to which tree?

Match the leaf to the correct tree.



Horse Chestnut

Willow

Pine

Ash

Oak

Did you match them correctly? Put your score in the box.

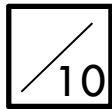


Answer sheet:

Quiz answers:

1. Victoria
2. Rabbits
3. Windsor
4. Georgina
5. Douglas Fir
6. Leighton
7. Bluebells
8. A young female hen
9. A tom
10. Cochin

How many did you get right?





Bake some welsh cakes

Welsh cakes, also known as 'bakestones' because they used to be cooked on hot stones, have been popular in Wales since the 19th Century. They were the perfect size to be popped into a working man's coat pocket as a snack.

Here's a simple recipe for you to try. You might need the help of an adult.

225g plain flour

50g cubed butter

85g caster sugar

50g cubed lard

½ tsp mixed spice

50g currants

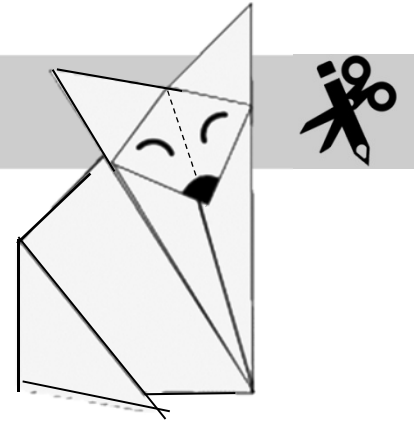
½ tsp baking powder

1 egg, beaten

Splash of milk

- Put the flour, sugar, mixed spice, baking powder and a pinch of salt into a bowl.
- Add the butter and lard and rub between your fingers until it makes breadcrumbs.
- Add the currants and then tip in the beaten egg. Work the mixture until you have a soft dough (say 'doh'); add a splash of milk if it seems too dry.
- Roll the dough out onto a lightly floured surface until it is about a centimetre thick. Cut out rounds using a 6cm cutter.
- Grease a griddle pan or heavy frying pan with some lard and place over a medium heat on the hob.
- Place the welsh cakes into the pan in batches and cook on each side for about three minutes until they are golden, crisp and cooked through.
- Sprinkle with a little caster sugar and enjoy!





Make a woodland origami fox

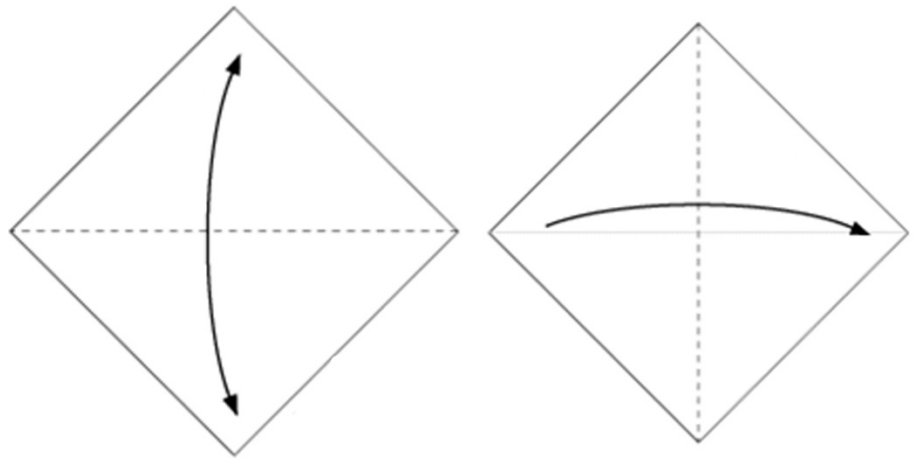
Woodlands have lots of different animals living in them from rabbits, mice and insects to deer, birds and foxes. Have a go at making your own origami fox with the paper on the next sheet.

You will need:

- Paper
- Scissors
- Colouring pencils

Step One:

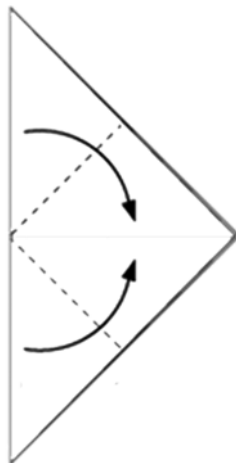
Cut the A4 piece of paper into a square. Follow the dotted lines on the sheet on the next page.



Then fold in half one way to make a crease, then open it up and fold it in half the other way.

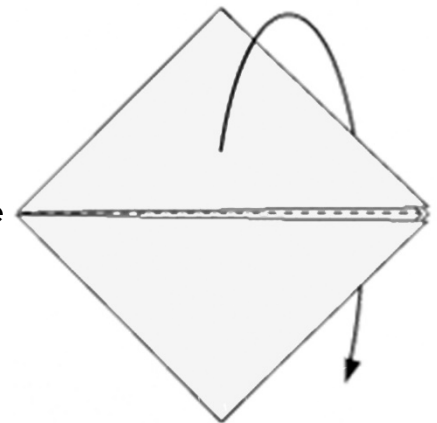
Step two:

Fold both sides in to make a diamond shape.



Step three:

Once you have the diamond shape, fold the paper in on itself in half again so that all the flaps are on the outside edge.



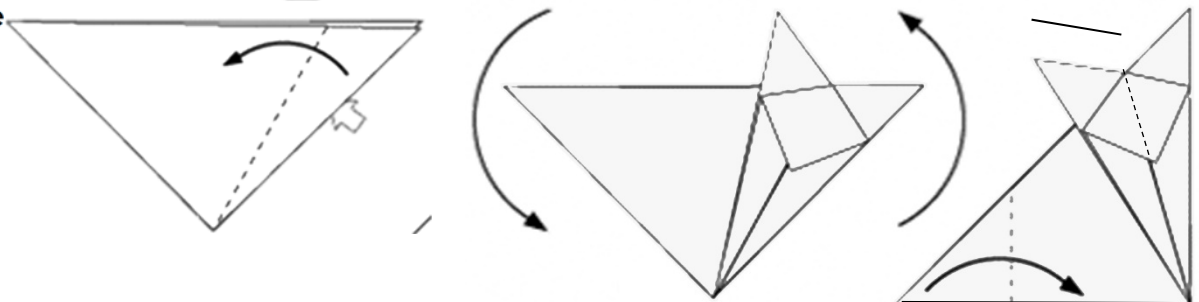
Step four:

Fold the first flap back a little bit like in the diagram to make a fox ear. Then with the middle flap push it inwards to make a Diamond shape that will be the fox's face.



Step five:

Turn the paper round so that it is at a right angle. Then fold the other corner inwards to create the fox's tail. Then colour and draw in the fox's face!



Cut out to make your origami fox

