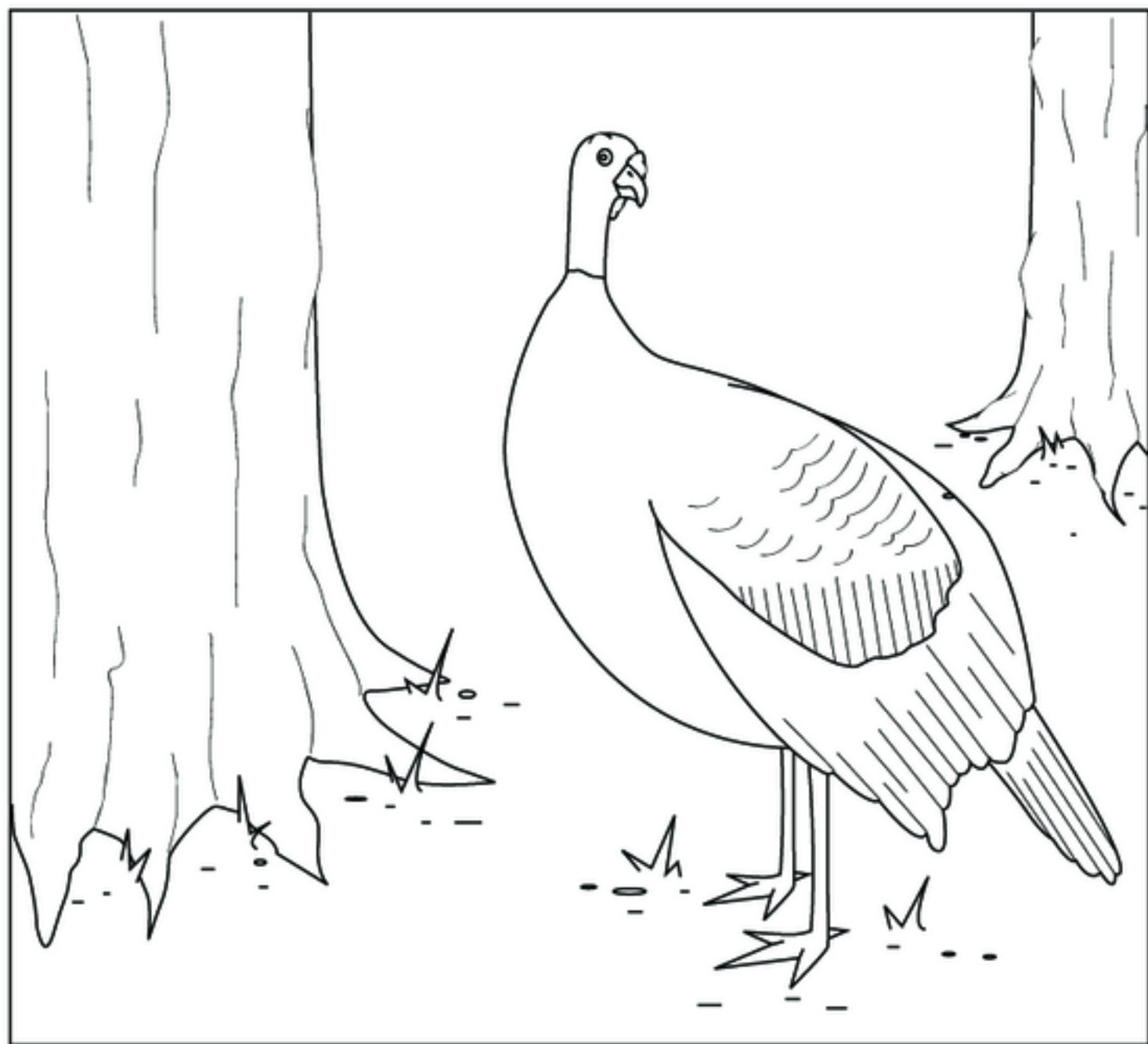
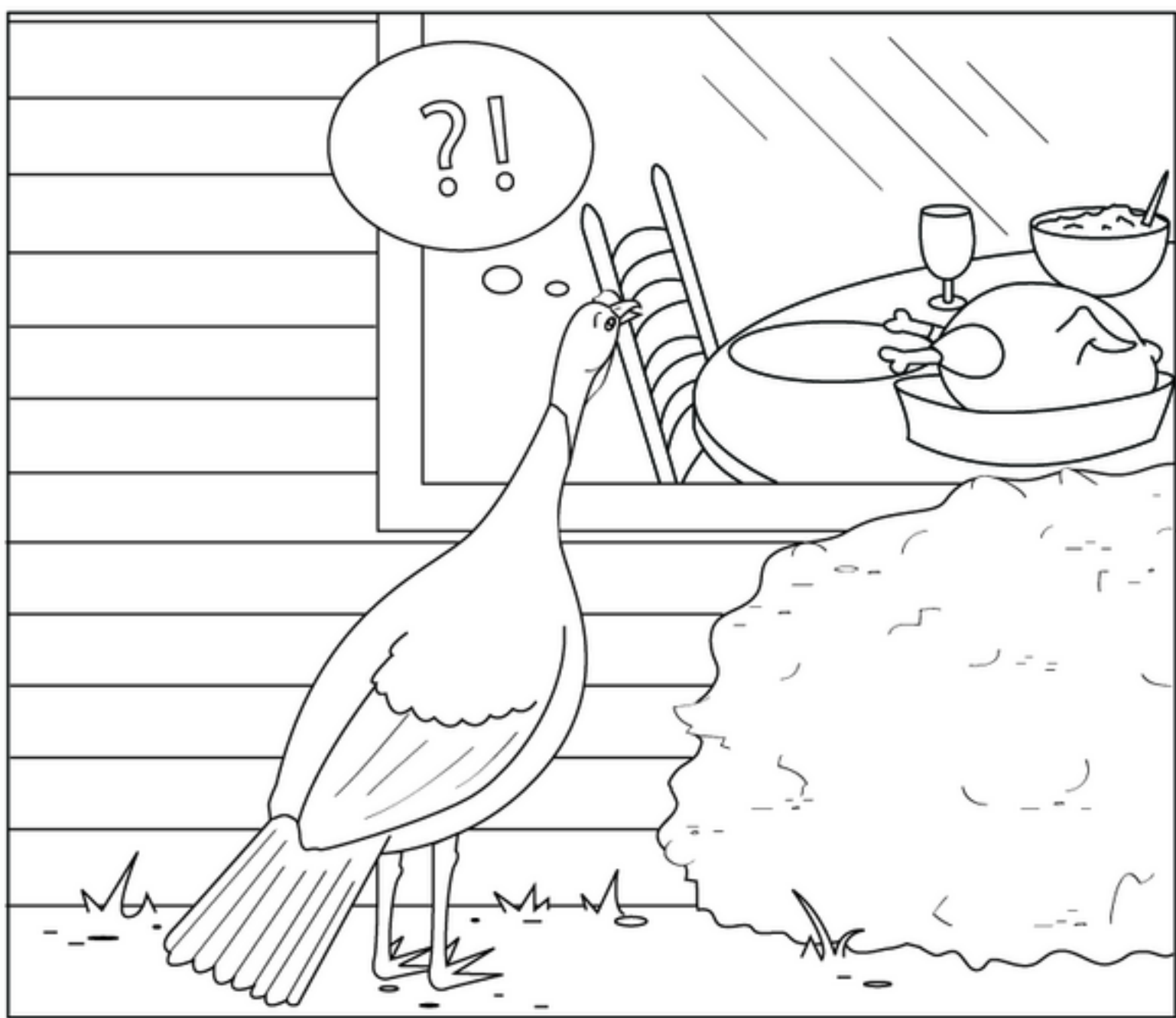


# The North American Wild Turkey





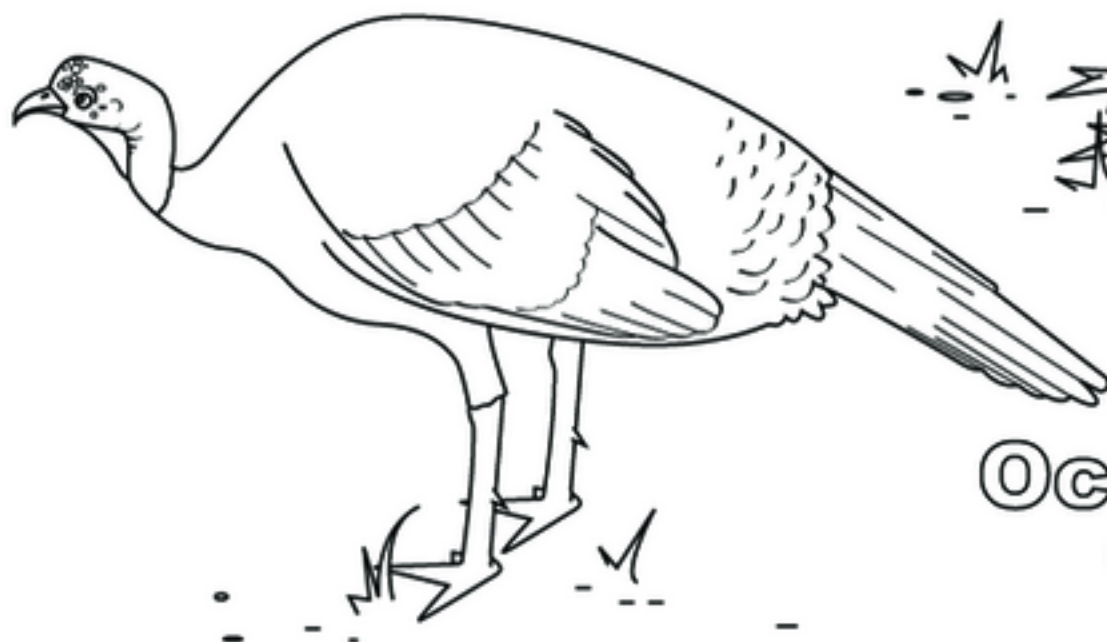
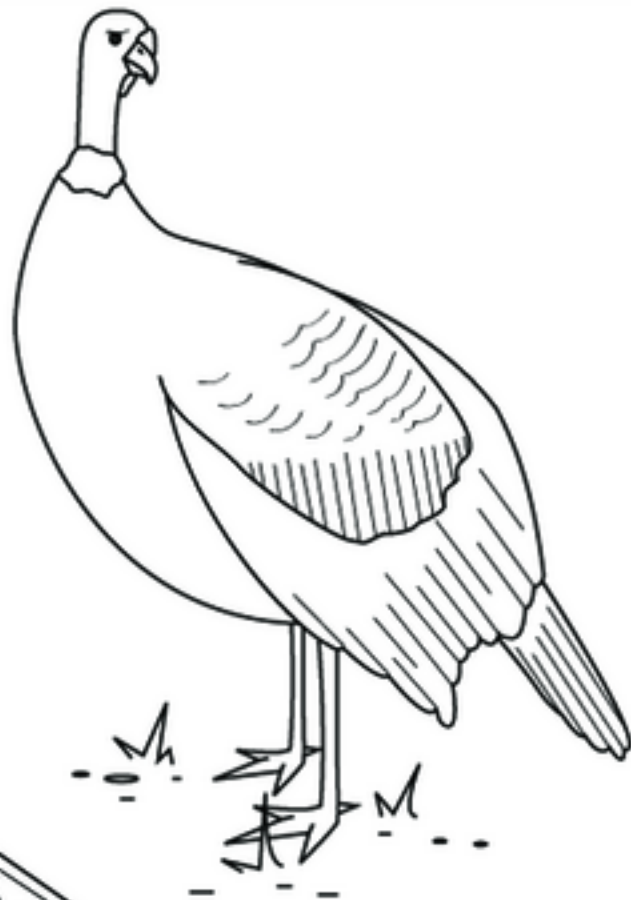
The domestic turkey is a symbol of Thanksgiving  
in our nation.

But the turkey on our table has a wild turkey  
relation.

The wild turkey is quite different from its domestic  
friend.

Unfortunately for both of them, they're someone's  
dinner in the end.

# Wild Turkey



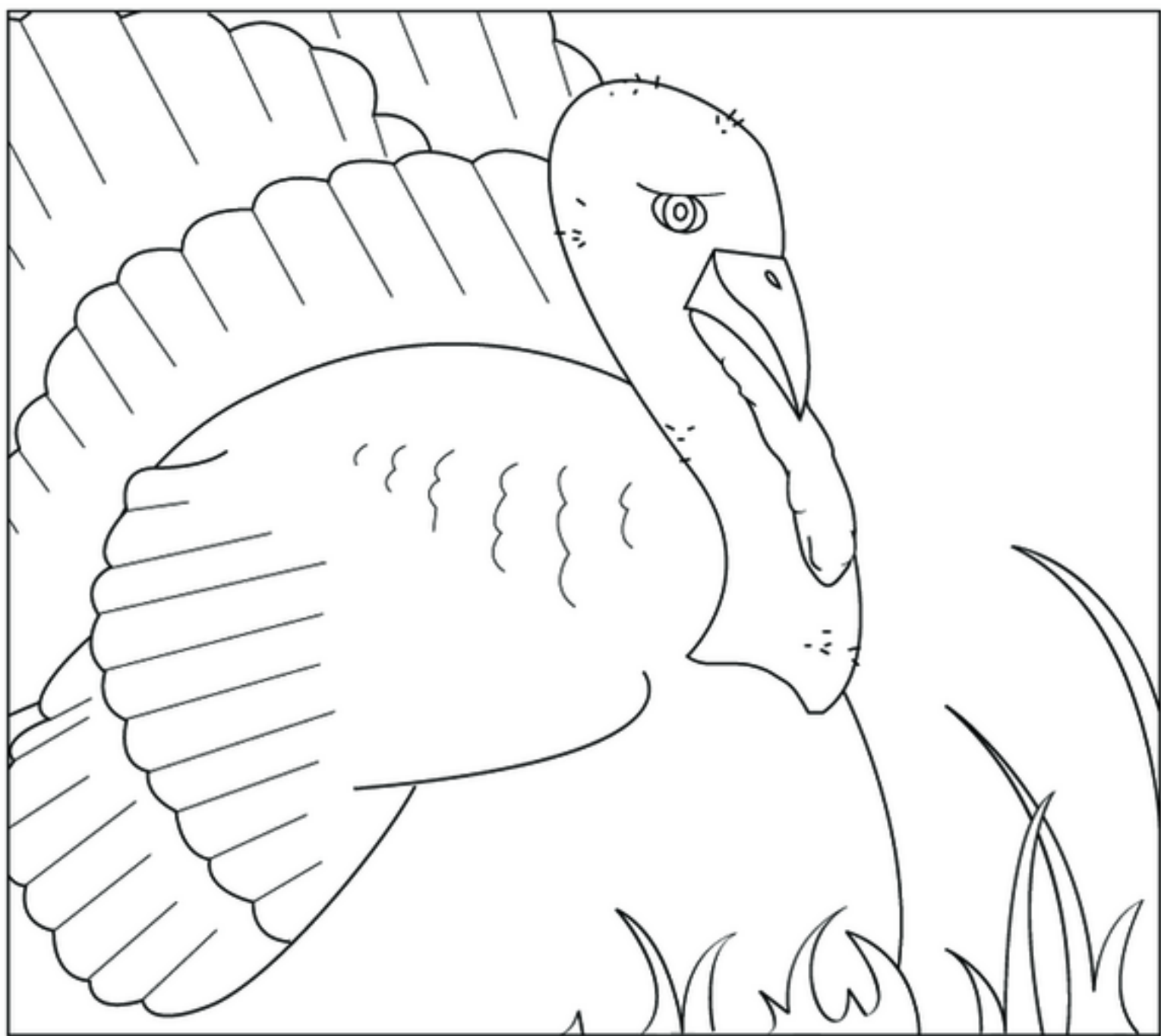
# Ocellated Turkey

There are two kinds of wild turkeys in North America today.

From Canada to Mexico, in the woodlands is where they stay.

The first one, called the Wild Turkey, lives on North American ground,

While the Ocellated Turkey, near South America is found.

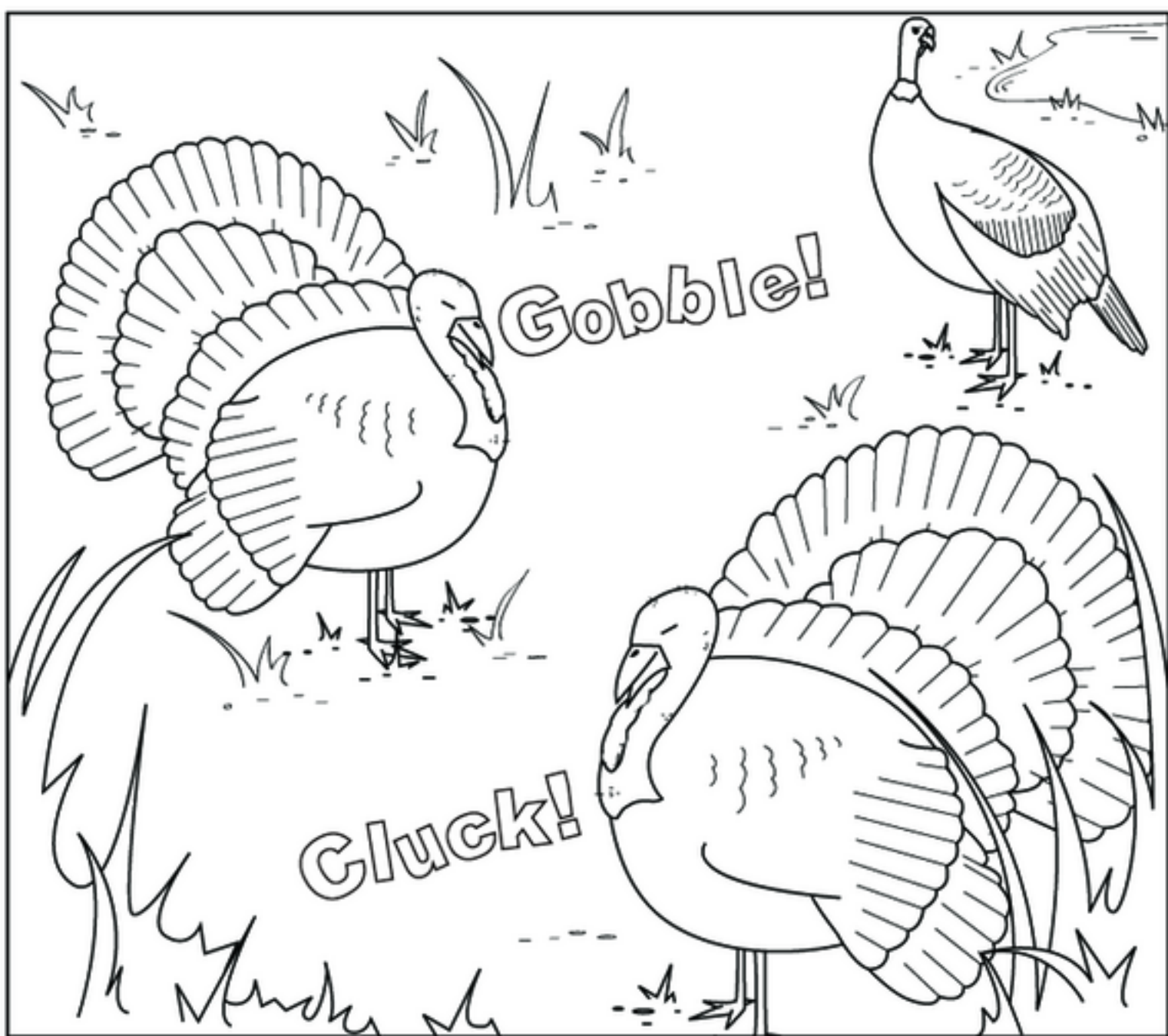


Wild turkeys have featherless, bluish heads. The males have throats of red.

Their feathers are a brownish black, but they have none upon their head.

The males all have a wattle; that's just a fleshy piece of skin

That hangs down like an earlobe, except it's from their chin.



Wild turkeys have long, fan shaped tails,  
and two bronze-colored wings.

Wild turkeys make gobbling, clucking calls,  
but the wild turkey never sings.

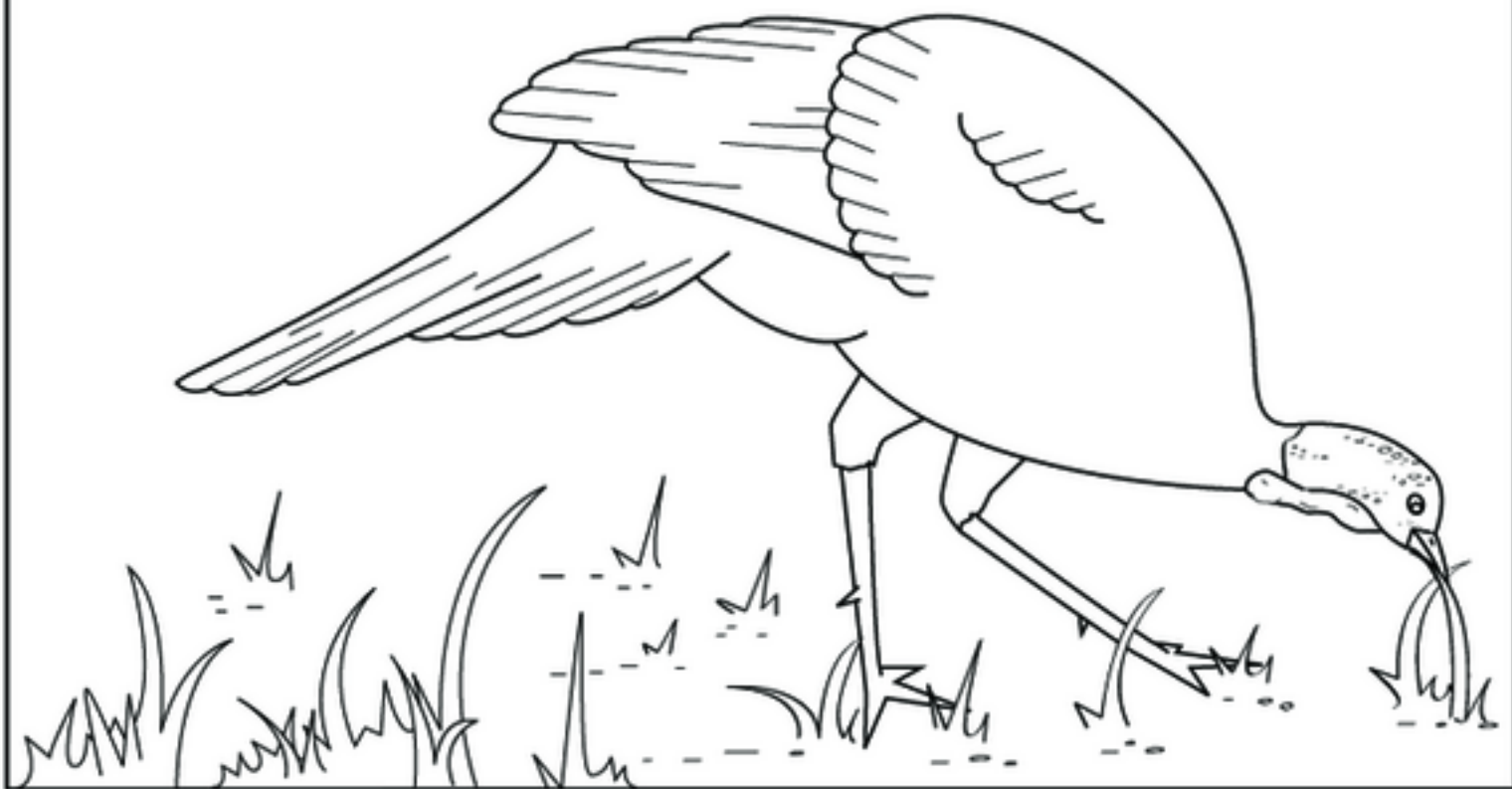
Wild turkeys are agile flyers,  
but they fly close to the ground.

When a male turkey wants to find his mate,  
he makes a low-pitched drumming sound.

Pinyon pine



Hickory

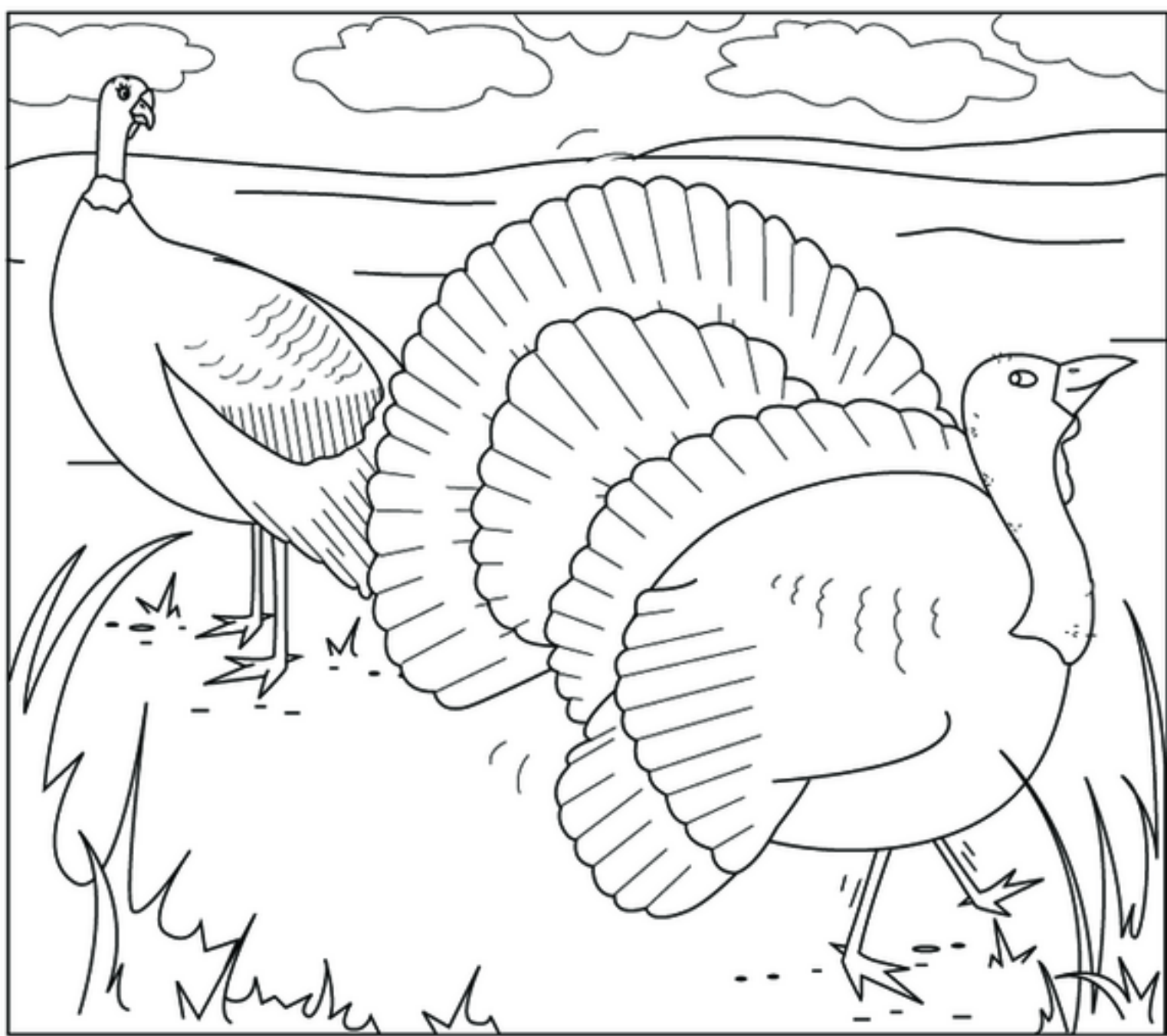


Wild turkeys nest upon the ground, often in grass that's green and tall.

At night the turkey sleeps in trees. Turkeys do not migrate at all.

Wild turkeys like eating nuts like hickory and pinyon pine.

Wild turkeys also eat roots and insects, and grass will do just fine.



When male turkeys come a-courting,  
they strut and spread their tail.

If you see a wild turkey puffing up,  
you're looking at a male.

The male turkey's called "gobbler" or "tom."

The female's called a "hen."

When excited, their necks turn from red to blue,  
and then to white again.

# poult



A baby turkey's called a "poult." They leave the nest after a day.

The poults start foraging for food, and then on their own they stay.

Wild turkeys are a game bird. That mean's they're hunted for sport.

They are not a threatened species yet, we're happy to report.





The Spaniards gave the turkey its name four hundred years ago.

They brought it back to Europe, a new bird they would show.

It looked like one they saw from Turkey, so they called this bird the same.

And that is how our own wild turkey got its funny name.

1. What kind of turkey is used as a symbol of Thanksgiving?

- a. white
- b. domestic
- c. red, white, and blue
- d. hot

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2. What kind of turkey is this selection about?

- a. Mexican Turkey
- b. French Wild Turkey
- c. North American Wild Turkey
- d. Turkey Jerky

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

3. What are the two types of wild turkeys that live in North America?

- a. Wild Turkey and Ocellated Turkey
- b. Grey Turkey and White Turkey
- c. Turkey Jerkey and Turkey Lurkey
- d. Tom Turkey and Jerry Turkey

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What is a wattle?

- a. a tail feather
- b. a spur on the leg of a turkey
- c. a fleshy piece of skin on the chin
- d. a hat

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is one sound a wild turkey makes?

- a. cock-a-doodle-doo
- b. chirp, chirp
- c. wattle, wattle
- d. gobble, gobble

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is another name for a male turkey?

- a. mate
- b. hen
- c. tom
- d. sir

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_