

GORDON

THE GREEDY GOOSE



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Stevenage
BOROUGH COUNCIL



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Once there was a goose called Gordon.

Gordon was a gorgeous and graceful goose who just loved to gobble grass with his friends. In fact Gordon had quite a few friends, it must have been 200 back then!

They loved to paddle and swim in the lake because when they weren't eating, that was their break.

But Gordon the goose's most favourite thing of all was to fly with his friends making loud calls.

One day they arrived at a rather big lake, but little did they know this would be a mistake.

Shortly after Gordon flew gracefully to the ground, he noticed lots of other animals around. Wondering what all the fuss was about, Gordon waddled over to where the birds were hanging out.

He saw lots of ducks and swans, all rather grumpy, he noticed they looked rather large and dumpy. Ignoring the others who were making quite a racket, he put his head down and began eating the grass in habit.



All of a sudden Gordon let out a large
“HONK” as something landing in front of
him went plonk!

A large piece of bread right in front of his
feet, soft, white and spongy, it looked such
a treat. Gordon took the bread into his beak
and nibbled and chewed from under his feet.

More and more bread appeared under his
toes, he ate it all quickly as his friends started
to show.

Getting rather fond of his new found food,
Gordon and his friends became very rude.

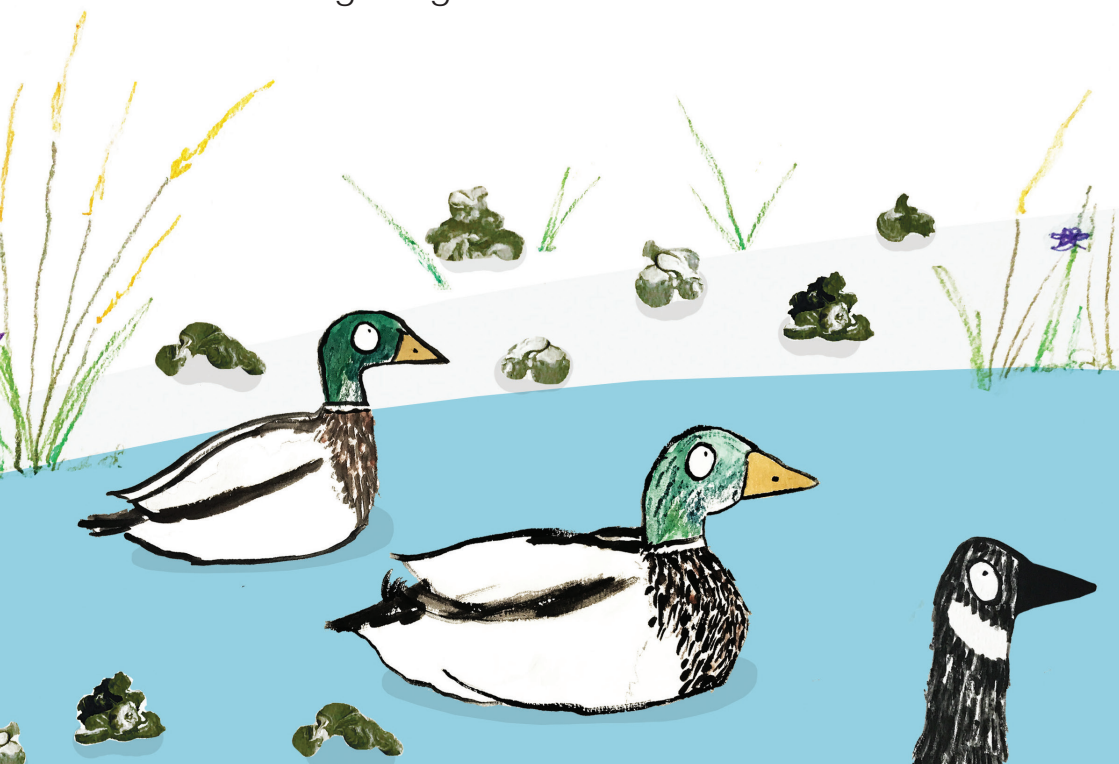


Because the more they all chewed, the more they all pooped!

Green and gooey the paths and water had all gotten, soon the whole park had become rather rotten.

But Gordon the goose continued to gobble while all his friends started to squabble.

There was poo in the lake and poo on the paths. Poo was everywhere, including the grass!



Everything now was rather slippery, it's not a surprise Gordon's legs got quite jittery.

It happened while he was feeding on the bread... He slipped up on the poo and landed on his head!

Wiping his tears he saw something furry, but he wasn't sure as things were still blurry.



All of a sudden he let out a squeak, as Ronald the rat started to speak.

He said “Although it was funny how you fell on your head, I think you need to eat something else instead. Bread is not good for us all to eat, would you not rather have some grains of wheat?”

Still amazed by a talking rat, Gordon opened his wings and started to flap.

But quickly he realised he was unable to fly so he plonked his bum down and started to cry. For flying was his most favourite thing, so he wished for something healthy more than anything!



Then a little girl appeared with a small bag of grain, even though it had begun to rain.



Gordon nibbled and chewed on this small bit of grain, he started to imagine flying like an aeroplane.

After a while Gordon felt much better, the rain washed the park and left everything wetter.

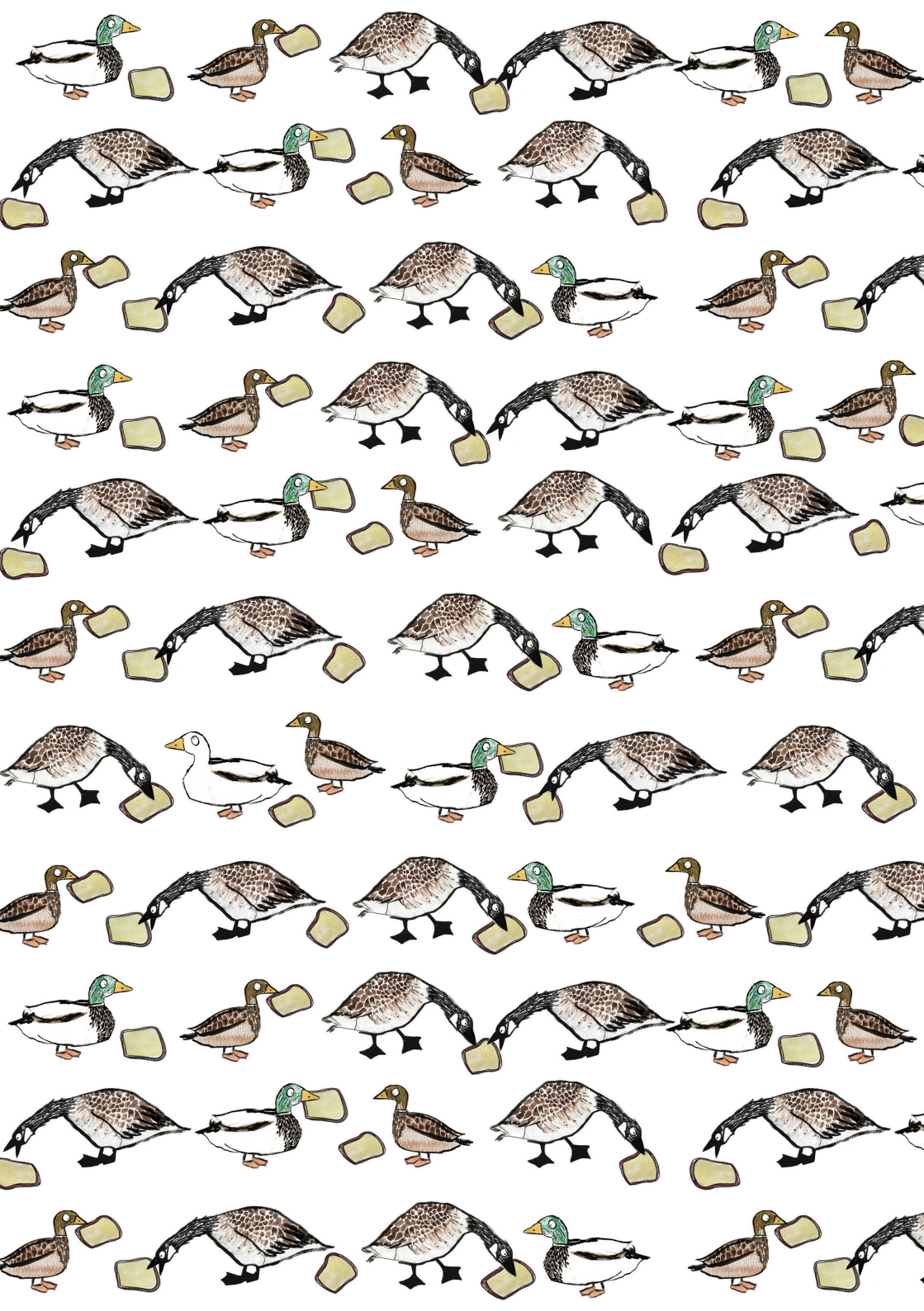


Quickly Gordon tried flapping his wings, he realised he was moving away from things. Although it took quite a strain, soon Gordon was flying high again.

He honked and waved as he passed his friends and he thanked the girl as he started to ascend.

Now the story is over we thank you for reading because we hope you'll think twice about what you'll be feeding!






Fun facts



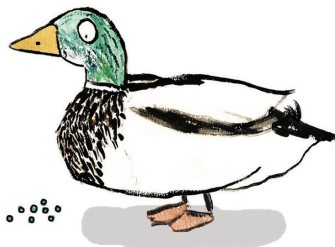
Did you know...

- Bread is like junk food to geese and ducks and is not good for them.
- Too much bread can make geese and ducks unable to fly.
- Feeding too much bread will cause waste to build-up. Soggy bread attracts nasty germs and pests like Ronald the Rat.
- Too much food means too much bird poo! This is smelly, slippery and not good for the environment. 
- A goose on average will poo every 13 minutes. For the 200 geese we have, that's 11,000 poos a day – yuck!
- A goose poops out 1.5lbs of poo a day. Poo from 200 geese weighs the same as a baby elephant.

What can I feed ducks and geese instead of bread?

You can feed them small amounts of:

- Chopped lettuce and salad leaves
- Peas
- Sweetcorn
- Birdseed and wheat grain
- Oats
- Rice (cooked or uncooked)
- Grapes (chopped in half)



Please don't feed them crisps, chips, cereal, crackers or chocolate. Put your litter or left overs into a bin.