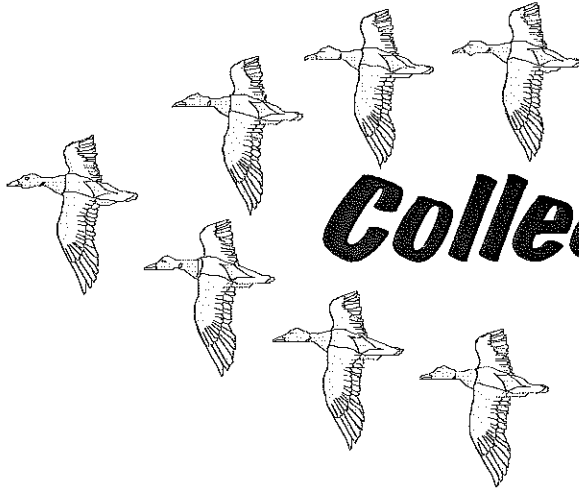


flock
shoal
team
class
cast



Collective nouns

Collective nouns name groups or *collections* of things.

For example, you are probably at this moment sitting in a **CLASS**. A class can mean a group of pupils. Many of you will belong to a **TEAM** to play football, hockey or rugby. The words **CLASS** and **TEAM** are called collective nouns.

1. What is the name, or collective noun, for each of the following?

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| a lot of people | c |
| a lot of birds | f |
| the members of a play | c |
| large numbers of soldiers | a |
| a lot of ships | f |
| the people watching a play | a |
| the people in a church | c |
| a group of people waiting in line | q |
| a group of musicians | o |
| a lot of fish | s |

2. There are a lot of very unusual collective nouns. Here are some of them:
 a *chattering* of starlings, a *pride* of lions, a *troop* of monkeys and a *watch* of nightingales.

You, too, can have fun with collective nouns. Try making up your own collective nouns. How about a *nag* of teachers! Make up your own collective nouns for the following groups:

horses, parents, friends, school-dinners, dentists, comedians,
 doctors, dancers, geese, teachers, politicians, footballers,
 swimmers, models, athletes, burglars, babies, cats,
 dogs, magpies, neighbours.

