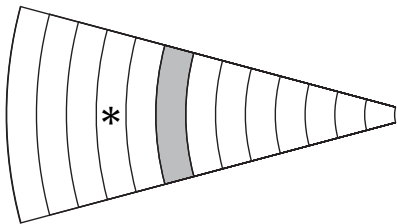


Solution to **FRANKENWORDS**:

This column is another in our ongoing series. For additional instructions, refer to one of our past columns. (An archive is available on our website.) You do not need to look at the wedge below to solve the puzzle.



## THE MIGHTY DUCKLINGS

*Oh no! The baby ducklings are lost! Luckily, they have learned from their mama a surefire way to get home.*

1. Adjacent letters are the 5 letters that are to your immediate left, right, straight ahead, and forward diagonals. All directions are given relative to a duckling walking on the board and not from a bird's-eye view. If two rules conflict, defer to the earlier rule.
2. If the three letters in front of you spell a word (reading from left to right), write down the letter you're standing on and turn left. Ducklings are still young so they only recognize words that would be in a children's dictionary.
3. If you see a Q, X, or Z directly in front of you, PANIC! Turn back the way you came and step forward three letters without looking at any adjacent letters along the way.
4. If the letter you are standing on and a letter adjacent is both a state abbreviation and an element, ignore that pair.
5. If the letter you are standing on followed by a letter adjacent spells a US state abbreviation, turn toward that adjacent letter and step forward the number of vowels in the state's name without looking at any adjacent letters along the way.
6. If the letter you are standing on followed by a letter adjacent spells an element abbreviation, turn toward that adjacent letter and step forward onto it. If there are two, pick the one with larger atomic number.
7. If you don't know what to do, always turn right (90 deg) and step forward.

START	↓	D	W	C	H	E	R	R	I	N	G	X	F
		B	I	J	H	I	B	I	L	U	R	N	I
		Y	D	Y	V	P	O	N	S	M	U	Q	N
		U	K	N	A	D	A	F	Q	G	W	U	G
		Q	M	A	K	H	T	V	U	T	X	E	B
		E	U	D	E	W	P	E	J	I	N	C	Z
		W	A	J	S	B	Z	P	S	A	K	T	W
		F	A	A	P	S	T	Z	Y	V	T	O	D
		F	K	G	N	P	C	O	X	R	Q	O	V
		S	P	B	E	I	R	L	L	A	R	L	B
		Z	O	K	H	Y	M	S	H	S	O	N	K
		Y	L	F	V	X	F	C	E	C	A	W	O

END