



Take Your Wildlife Study Across the Curriculum!

A Selection of Teaching Activities Using **Kids Can Press Wildlife Series**

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Graceful deer, industrious beavers, majestic eagles and more — the Kids Can Press Wildlife series explores a variety of animals native to North America. Created to meet the research needs of young children, these books satisfy their curiosity with simple, straightforward text and outstanding illustrations.

Each informative book covers topics including habitat, feeding habits, communication, migration and parenting. The volumes feature special animal fact boxes, anatomical cross-sections, glossaries and indexes, making them an invaluable resource for school projects.

- ★ American Bookseller,
Pick of the Lists
- ★ Selected as Outstanding
by Parent Council ®
- ★ Science Book & Films,
Best Books for Children

**“Good choices for young readers beginning to
use non-fiction.” — *School Library Journal***

Geography

Using the Wildlife series, have children discover where certain species live in North America. Locate the areas on a wall map of the continent. Discuss how more than one species can live in the same area. Bald eagles, whales and caribou are migratory animals. Discuss what this means and why the animals must move. Have children trace out the migration route of a Gray Whale on a blank North American map. Have children mark their home on the map. Do they live near the migratory path of the whales?



Language

Review the definition of verbs. Choose a wild animal, a deer for instance. Ask children to describe how a deer moves. Perhaps they will suggest leaping, hopping, prancing and dashing. Write each suggestion down on index cards. Choose another animal and repeat the procedure. Once you have a list of action words take the children to the gym or playing field. Announce one of the animal movements and have the children act it out. Instruct them to continue until you call out a different movement.

Math

List the following ten wild animals on the board: bald eagle, black bear, moose, beaver, wolf, red fox, lynx, killer whale, cougar and bobcat! Give each child a sheet of paper divided into two columns: heavier than me, lighter than me. Ask each child to list their own weight on the top of their page (you might need to have a scale handy!). Next ask the children to list the animals from the board under the appropriate heading, according to their own estimates. Using the Wildlife series, invite the children to look up the proper weights for the animals. Have the children list the weights beside each animal on their list.

Science

Make a food pyramid with the children. You will need six styrofoam cups. Invert each cup and label them. Mark three with "plants," two with "rabbits" and one with "fox." Stack three plants on the bottom. Place the two rabbit cups on top. Cap the pyramid off with the fox cup. Ask one of the children to remove a "plants" cup without upsetting the pyramid. Very difficult! Discuss how development in areas with wild life affects the food chain. Divide the children into groups, give them six cups and ask them to make up another food chain.

Wildlife Project

The Wildlife series is a set of ideal information books for young learners to use when researching different animals. Use the outline provided on the opposite page and challenge your students to complete an independent animal study. The project will open their eyes to the amazing ways of the animal world. Be sure you allow time for each child to present their hard work to the class!

Wildlife Project

1. Choose an animal you would like to study and learn more about.

The animal I have chosen is the _____.

2. Cover: Create a stunning illustration of the animal you have chosen. You can use markers or pencil crayons. A few other ideas

- crayon resist (make a picture with crayons and paint over it with watered paint)
- pastels (blend colors together to capture the look and feel of fur)
- tissue paper (cut out tissue paper shapes to create the animal you have chosen)

3. Page one: Write a few descriptive paragraphs explaining what this animal looks like and what you find fascinating about it. If you have seen this animal in the wild, describe the event and how you felt watching it move about in its surroundings.

4. Page two: Create a fact box about the animal you are studying. This will be a list sharing various details about the animal. Information you will want to include: animal group (mammal, bird, reptile, etc.), size, color, what type of area it lives in (forest, prairie, etc.), favorite food and how many babies it has at one time. If you find more information, add more!

5. Page three: Color a map showing where we find this animal living in North America. Be sure to mark on the map where you live. Do you live within this animal's range?

6. Page four: Write a poem or tale about this animal. A fun type of poem to write might be a cinquain. Follow this formula:

- Animal's name
- Two verbs describing how it moves
- Three adjectives describing how it looks
- A four word phrase about the animal
- Another word for the animal

Cougar

Stalking, Bounding

Golden, Sneaky, Silent

Hiding in the trees

Wildcat

7. Last page: List any books or Web sites where you found information about this animal.

I will do my best to complete this project by _____.

