



For Wildlife 3-5 Teacher's Guide

Literature Connections

1. Over in a River Flowing Out to Sea, Marianne Berkes
2. Over and Under the Pond, Christopher Silas Neal
3. Wild City: Meet the Animals that Share Our City, Ben Hoare
 - Reading Response: Critical Thinking Questions
 - Do you think animals are important to a watershed?
 - What do animals need to survive? And what happens if their habitat is littered?

Student Page Activities

- Divide students into groups of 4. Each group will need a student page, a clipboard, and a pen or pencil. If you will also use this time to pick up trash, be sure the Litterati app is at the ready or you have data collection forms ready to use.
- Assign each group a local animal. Here are some suggestions: raccoon, possum, bird (robin, pigeon, owl, hawk), bee, butterfly, dragonfly, fox, deer, fish, squirrel, skunk, bat.
- Complete the activity outside. Students will need about 20 minutes to complete the activity. Provide an opportunity for groups to share with each other.
 - Make social-emotional connections.
 - How do you feel when you learn new things about animals?
 - Describe what it was like to work with your group.
 - Finish the sentence: When our group disagreed, we solved the problem by...

Class Action

- Schedule time to pick up litter on the school grounds or nature nearby (don't forget to recycle what can be recycled). Remember to use the [Clean Earth Challenge data collection form](#) to track what's collected. Use the online collection form or print the form and take it to your cleanup. Once complete either take a legible photo or scan as a PDF and email it to cleanearthchallenge@nwf.org. Find other details here: <https://cleanearthchallenge.com/>.

For Wildlife

Group Names: _____

Who Can Live Here?

We are a _____. In order to survive, you need food, water, cover/shelter, and a place to raise your young. Describe the habitat elements you find and where you find them. Then, decide whether or not you could make your home here.

1. Food Source

- What foods do you eat? _____
- Does this site provide this food? Yes | No
- If yes, list the foods found here:

- Are foods available to you in more than one season? Yes | No
 - If yes, which seasons? Winter | Spring | Summer | Fall
 - Is there trash that I might mistake for food? Yes* | No
- *Please throw away or recycle any trash in your habitat.

Rate "Food" from 1 to 5 (5 is excellent quality; 1 is poor quality) (1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

2. Water

- Does this site provide water for you? Yes | No
- If yes, list water sources found here:

- Is there trash in any of your water sources? Yes* | No
- * If safe, remove and throw away or recycle trash from your water source(s).

Rate "Water" from 1 to 5 (5 is excellent quality; 1 is poor quality) (1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

3. Cover/Shelter

Animals need different types of cover to protect them from weather or predators. Trees, tall grasses, rock piles, dead trees, and human-made structures can all provide cover for wildlife.

- List possible places where you might find cover here:

- Is there trash in any of the places that might make it difficult for me to take cover? Yes* | No *If easily accessed and safe, throw away or recycle any trash in these places.

Rate "Cover" from 1 to 5 (5 is excellent quality; 1 is poor quality) (1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

For Wildlife

4. Places to Raise Young

- Does the site provide good places for you to raise young? Yes | No | Maybe
- List possible places where you might raise young here:

- Is there trash in any of the places I might raise young? Yes* | No
* If safe, remove and throw away or recycle the trash you find.

Rate "Places to Raise Young" from 1 to 5 (5 is excellent quality; 1 is poor quality)

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

5. Living with Humans

- Do people often visit, work, or play here? Yes | No
- If yes, list their activities here:

- Can you live here if these activities are happening? Explain.

6. Habitat Rating

- Add up each habitat component rating. What is the total habitat rating for you at this site?
- How does the trash left at this site impact your decision to stay here?

- Based on your study, could you live on this site? Yes | No
Explain.

- How could this site be changed to make it a better habitat for you?
