

Critter Corner Extended Learning

Animals in Your Back Yard

1. What is the Illinois State Bird
2. Even though it can be seen in a gray or black color, it is still the same animal.
3. What animal warns others with a fur coat that stands out?
4. What animal lays eggs in the spring in the water?
5. This Animal is really a glider.
6. This animal doesn't have a furry tail like its cousin.
7. What is the Iowa State Bird?

Feathered Friends

1. A Robin can eat 14 feet of worms per day. If a worm is 4 inches long, how many total worms would a robin eat in a day? In a week?
2. If a hummingbird has an average speed of 25mph, how long would it take a hummingbird to fly across the 500 mile wide Gulf of Mexico?
3. Write about a day in the life of your favorite bird.
4. If you created a new state to add to our country, what would the name for the state be? What bird would be the state bird?
5. A hummingbird eats half its body weight in a food each day at this rate, how much food would your 80 pound dog eat?

Adaptations (Who am I?)

1. I have no teeth, but powerful jaws.
2. I protect my eyes with clear eye caps.
3. I fly forward, backward, and hover.
4. We possess talons and a sharp, curved beak.
5. We have cheek pockets that help us carry food.
6. I have eyes but I depend on listening for sounds bouncing off my environment.



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Incredible Insects

1. These two butterflies look the same to birds.
2. What is the Illinois State Insect?
3. What is often mistaken for a hummingbird?
4. How long does a male cicada live as an adult?
5. What is the difference between how a dragonfly and a damselfly holds it's wings?
6. What would you pick for a new State Insect? Why?

Birds of Prey

1. What is the real name for the "Sparrow Hawk"?
2. Write about the day in the life of your favorite bird of prey.
3. How do the Osprey and Bald Eagle differ in their pursuit of fish?
4. What is unique about the Burrowing Owl's nest?
5. Why does the Cooper's Hawk come to bird feeders?

Best Buddies

1. Describe one 'Best Buddy' relationship you learned about.
2. How does the hummingbird use the spider's web?
3. The Maple Tree is the 'Best Buddy' of which two birds?
4. Why does the Oriole place cottonwood seeds in its nest?
5. How do other animals use the groundhog's abandoned burrow?
6. When predators try to sneak up on unsuspecting birds, what is their warning?



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Nature's Outcasts

1. Have a trial!
 - a. Pick an animal to put on trial
 - b. Pick a prosecutor, defense attorney, jury, and judge
 - c. Have the prosecutor and defense attorney present their case
 - d. Jury deliberates then decides verdict
 - e. Judge declares sentence
2. What are the two big groups of spiders?
3. Do toads give you warts?
4. What are the two reasons snapping turtles snap?

Nocturnal Animals

1. What animal is more active at night underneath the ground?
2. Which squirrel is completely nocturnal?
3. What is the owl's main sense for locating its prey?
4. If an owl can eat 4 mice a day, how many mice would it eat in a year?
5. What are the 3 most common Iowa and Illinois owls?

Nature's Preparation for Winter

1. What reptile hibernates in groups for the winter?
2. This animal seeks a warmer climate (migrates) for the winter.
3. Changing the color of its fur coat to white helps this animal prepare for the winter.
4. Which four mammals hibernate?
5. What bird grows an extra thousand feathers for the winter?

