

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS!

## NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

### LESSON PLAN

Day One: Intro to Nocturnal Animals  
Objective: The students will be able to define "nocturnal" and identify various types of nocturnal animals.



### LESSON PLAN: DAY ONE

Introduction (5 minutes):

\*Teacher Says: What does it mean to be nocturnal? Nocturnal means to be active at night. There are some species of animals that hunt and eat at night and sleep most of the day. Why do you think some animal species are nocturnal? Certain animals are nocturnal for a few reasons - because it is cooler at night, there are fewer predators around, and sometimes animals they eat are also active at night. A few examples are owls, bats, raccoons, possums, foxes, skunks, hedgehogs and more.

## NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

### OWL K-W-L

KNOW

WANT TO KNOW



LEARNED

## NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

### HEDGEHOG UNSCRAMBLE

Directions: Unscramble each word associated with hedgehogs.

SKIPSE

NGHIT

BGUS

ONMIVREO

LVEASE

NSTE

MMLAMA



## NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

### LESSON PLAN

Week at a Glance:

Day One:

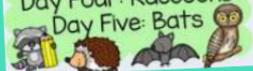
Introduction to Nocturnal Animals

Day Two: Hedgehogs

Day Three: Owls

Day Four: Raccoons

Day Five: Bats



## NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

### RACCOON RESEARCH

Directions: Use your resources to find more information about raccoons. Fill in the information below.

RACCOONS

By

Interesting Facts

Appearance:

diet:

HABITAT



## NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

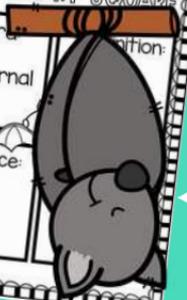
### VOCABULARY SQUARE

Word:

nocturnal

Definition:

Sentence:



## A FIVE DAY UNIT ALL ABOUT ANIMALS THAT ARE NOCTURNAL!

Includes lesson plans, graphic organizers, craft ideas, projects, comprehension questions and more!

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT

**az**  
ANIMALS

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## LESSON PLAN

Week at a Glance:

Day One:

Introduction to  
Nocturnal Animals

Day Two: Hedgehogs

Day Three: Owls

Day Four: Raccoons

Day Five: Bats



# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS



## LESSON PLAN



Day One: Intro to Nocturnal Animals  
Objective: The students will be able to define “nocturnal” and identify various types of nocturnal animals.

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## LESSON PLAN: DAY ONE

### Introduction (5 minutes):

\*Teacher Says: What does it mean to be nocturnal? Nocturnal means to be active at night. There are some species of animals that hunt and eat at night and sleep most of the day. Why do you think some animal species are nocturnal? Certain animals are nocturnal for a few reasons - because it is cooler at night, there are fewer predators around, and sometimes animals they eat are also active at night. A few examples are owls, bats, raccoons, possums, foxes, skunks, hedgehogs and more.

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## Lesson (20 minutes):

\*The teacher will show the video, "Animals Active at Night" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Esydn-lpRIk>

\*The teacher will guide the students in completing the "Vocabulary Square". They will define the word "nocturnal", write a sentence using the word and draw a picture.

## Independent Work (10 minutes)

\*The students will complete the "Nocturnal Quick Check" comprehension questions attached below. The teacher will assess answers for understanding of the lesson.

## Closing (5 minutes)

\*Whole Group Discussion: What makes an animal nocturnal? Why do you think some animals have adapted over time to being nocturnal? Are there negatives to being nocturnal?

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## VOCABULARY SQUARE

Word:

nocturnal

Definition:

Sentence:

Picture:



# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## NOCTURNAL QUICK CHECK

1. What does it mean to be nocturnal?

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2. Why are certain animals nocturnal?

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3. What are different types of nocturnal animals?

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# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS



## LESSON PLAN



Day Two: Hedgehog

Objective: The students will be able to identify various characteristics of hedgehogs.

## LESSON PLAN: DAY TWO

Introduction (5 minutes):

Teacher Says: Today, we are going to learn about hedgehogs. Hedgehogs are nocturnal animals, which means they hunt and eat at night, and are asleep during the day. They are small mammals, well known for their spiky coats and ability to form a very tight ball when hiding from predators. Hedgehogs have a few qualities that help them thrive at night - good sense of smell to search for insects, strong hearing to detect predators, and low eyesight which allows them to rely more on their hearing and smell. Hedgehogs are omnivores, which means they eat both meat and plants!

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## Lesson (15 minutes):

- \*The teacher will read the book, "The Nature Kid's Guide to Hedgehogs: A Level 2 Reader for Curious Young Kids Who Love Hedgehogs!". Questions to ask during/after reading - What did you learn about hedgehogs? Where do they live? What do they eat? Why are they unique/special?
- \*The students will complete the "Hedgehog Unscramble" in small groups.

## Independent Work (10 minutes)

- \*The students will research more about hedgehogs. They will utilize the "Hedgehog Research" activity sheet to record information. Students can extend the activity by creating a poster or writing a nonfiction writing piece.

## Closing (5 minutes)

- \*The students will share with the class their "Hedgehog Research" activity sheets.

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## HEDGEHOG UNSCRAMBLE

Directions: Unscramble each word associated with hedgehogs.

SKIPSE

NGHIT

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NSTE

MMLAMA



# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## HEDGEHOG RESEARCH

Directions: Use your resources to find more information about hedgehogs. Fill in the information below.

**HEDGEHOG**

By:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Appearance  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

diet  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

HABITAT  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Interesting Facts  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## LESSON PLAN

Day Three: Owls



Objective: The students will be able to describe characteristics of owls.

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## LESSON PLAN: DAY THREE

### Introduction (5 minutes):

\*Teacher Says: Today, we are going to investigate more about another type of nocturnal animal: owls! Owls are also nocturnal because they sleep during the day and are active/hunt at night. Owls have special adaptations for night life including large eyes, excellent hearing and silent flight! Owls are carnivores, which means they primarily eat meat. They mainly eat mice, rats, small birds, insects, frogs or fish. They usually live in trees, & sometimes in grasslands or deserts.

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## Lesson (15 minutes):

\*The teacher will play the video, "Spotted Owl" from National Geographic Kids - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifXMpuNK9RA>

\*Questions to ask students after the video - What makes owls good at hunting at night? Why do owls have special feathers that help them fly quietly? What foods do owls eat? How do owls help their environment?

## Independent Work (10 minutes)

\*The students will complete the "Fact or Fiction?" activity worksheet attached below. They will color in the true statements in green and the false statements in red.

## Closing (5 minutes)

\*The students will use their "K-W-L" graphic organizer to record the information that they learned from the lesson.

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

OWL K-W-L

KNOW

WANT TO  
KNOW



LEARNED

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## FACT OR FICTION?

Directions: Color the facts in green. Color statements that are fiction in red.

Owls are carnivores.

Owls are active during the day.

Owls are nocturnal.

Owls only eat fruit and leaves.

Owls have large eyes to help them see at night.

Owls live in trees.

Owls are birds.

Owls are mammals.

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## LESSON PLAN

### Day Four: Raccoons

Objective: The students will be able to describe characteristics of raccoons.



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## LESSON PLAN: DAY FOUR

### Introduction (5 minutes):

\*Teacher Says: Today, we are going to be exploring more about raccoons. Raccoons are small nocturnal mammals. Being active at night is safer for them because of predators. Raccoons have a few qualities which help them at night - good night vision, excellent sense of touch, and curious/clever. They are omnivores, eating both plants and animals! You even may see one at night digging through a trash can eating leftover human food! Raccoons can live in many different habitats - forests, woodlands, near rivers/lakes, urban areas, etc!

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## Lesson (15 minutes):

\*The teacher will show the video, "Raccoons" from National Geographic Kids - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=llViKrWgTYk>

\*The teacher will lead the students in completing the "Raccoon" graphic organizer attached below. The students will write four facts about raccoons in the circles on the worksheet.

## Independent Work (10 minutes)

\*The students will research more about raccoons. They will utilize the "Raccoon Research" activity sheet to record information. Students can extend the activity by creating a poster or writing a nonfiction writing piece.

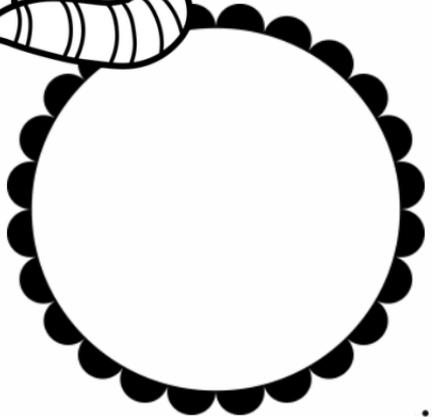
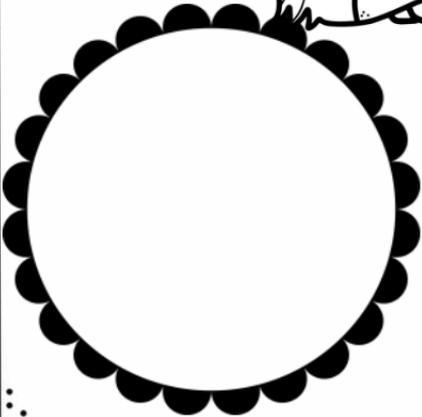
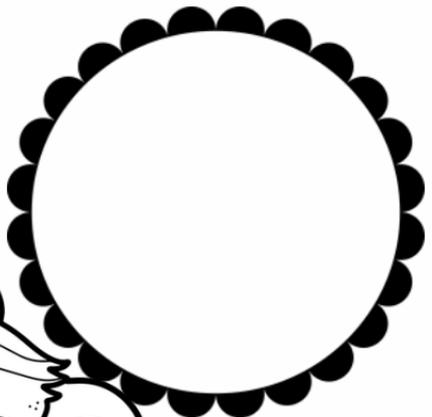
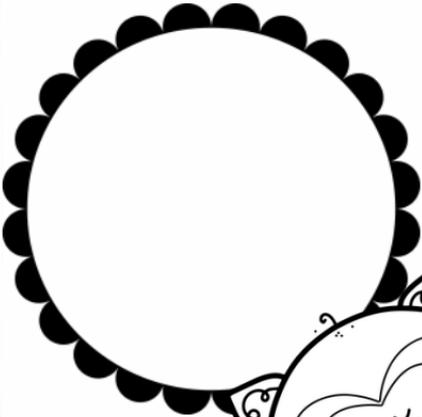
## Closing (5 minutes)

\*The students will share their "Raccoon Research" activity sheets with the class or in small groups.

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## RACCOONS

Directions: In the circles below, write down four facts about raccoons.



# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## RACCOON RESEARCH

Directions: Use your resources to find more information about raccoons. Fill in the information below.

**RACCOONS**

By:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Appearance  
\_\_\_\_\_

diet  
\_\_\_\_\_

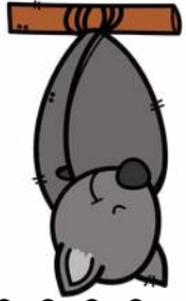
HABITAT  
\_\_\_\_\_

Interesting Facts  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## LESSON PLAN



### Day Five: Bats

Objective: The students will be able to describe characteristics about bats.

## LESSON PLAN: DAY FIVE

### Introduction (5 minutes):

\*Teacher Says: Today we are exploring more about another type of nocturnal animal: bats! Bats find dark places like caves, trees or attics to sleep during the day. They have special adaptations that make it easier for them to thrive at night including echolocation, silent flight and good night vision. Bats are actually mammals, not birds. They are one of the only types of mammals that can fly. Bats mainly eat insects or fruit/flowers. What else do you know about bats?

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

## Lesson (15 minutes):

\*The students will watch the video, "3 Fun Facts About Bats" -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Mii45v85YY>

\*The teacher will guide the students in completing the "Bats can, have, are" graphic organizer attached below.

## Independent Work (10 minutes)

\*The students will write a 3-5 sentence paragraph describing bats using the attached writing template below. They will also draw a picture to match their writing!

## Closing (5 minutes)

\*The students will share their stingray writing paragraph with a small group or to the whole group.

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS



b

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can

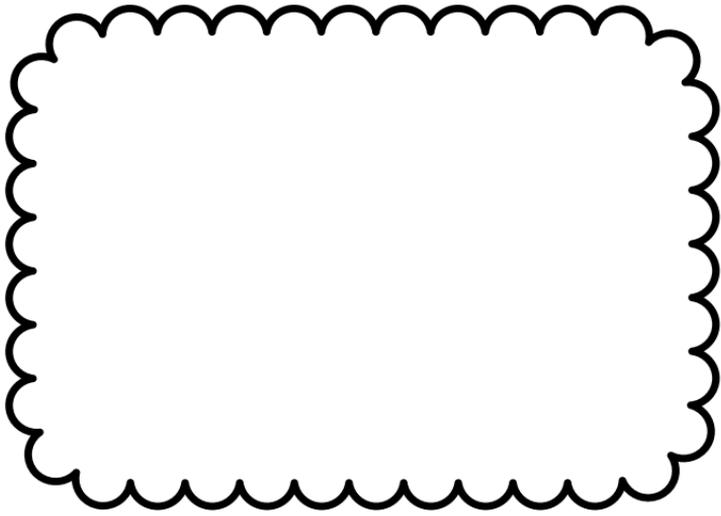
are



have

# NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

Bats, Bats, Bats!



Five horizontal dashed lines for writing.