

ALL ABOUT RACCOONS!

RACCOONS LESSON PLAN

Week at a Glance:

- Day One: Intro to Raccoons: Physical Traits
- Day Two: Raccoon Habitats
- Day Three: What Raccoons Eat
- Day Four: Life As A Nocturnal Animal
- Day Five: Raccoon Families



RACCOONS LESSON PLAN

Day Two: Raccoon Habitats

Objective: The students will be able to identify where raccoons live and how they survive & thrive in their habitats.



LESSON PLAN: DAY TWO

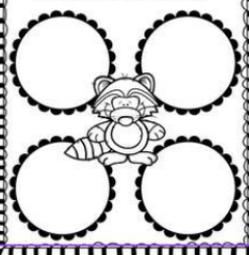
Introduction (5 minutes):

Teacher Says: Today, we are exploring more about where raccoons live. What do you remember about what we talked about yesterday? What is a habitat? A habitat is where an animal lives and eats. Raccoons typically live in forests, near water like rivers and lakes, cities & towns, and tree hollows or dens. Three important things for most animals to have in their habitat is shelter, food and water. Raccoons are super adaptable, meaning they can adjust to a variety of different habitats! Where do you think a raccoon might have the best chance of survival? Why?

RACCOONS

RACCOON HABITATS

Directions: In the circles below, write four facts about raccoon habitats.



RACCOONS

FACT OR FICTION?

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



RACCOONS

SEQUENCING EVENTS

The Kissing Hand

#1

#2

#3

#4



A COMPREHENSIVE FIVE DAY UNIT ALL ABOUT RACCOONS!

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

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT

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ANIMALS

RACCOONS

LESSON PLAN

Week at a Glance:

Day One: Intro to
Raccoons: Physical Traits

Day Two: Raccoon
Habitats

Day Three: What Raccoons
Eat

Day Four: Life As A
Nocturnal Animal

Day Five: Raccoon Families



RACCOONS

LESSON PLAN



Day One: Intro to Raccoons

Objective: The students will be able to identify characteristics and physical traits of raccoons.

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LESSON PLAN: DAY ONE

Introduction (5 minutes):

*Teacher Says: This week, we are learning all about raccoons! What do you already know about raccoons? Have you ever seen a raccoon? What do they look like? Raccoons are small mammals that are famous for having a “black mask” around their eyes and ringed tails. They love to explore, are very clever and are great problem solvers! You can find raccoons in forests, cities and even neighborhoods! However, you may not see them, because they are nocturnal – which means they are typically active at night!

RACCOONS

Lesson (20 minutes):

*The teacher will read the book, "All Things Raccoons For Kids: Filled With Plenty of Facts, Photos, and Fun to Learn all About Raccoon" Questions to ask during/after reading - What unique physical traits do raccoons have? How do raccoons hands help them find/eat food? Where do raccoons live? When are they most active?

*Guide the students in completing the "Raccoons can, have, are" graphic organizer attached below.

Independent Work (10 minutes)

*The students will independently write the definition of "nocturnal", write a sentence using the word and will draw a picture associated with the word "nocturnal" on the "Vocabulary Square" activity sheet.

Closing (5 minutes)

*With a partner, the students will share their sentence and picture from the "Vocabulary Square".

RACCOONS

r a c c o o n s

can

are



have

RACCOONS

VOCABULARY SQUARE

Word:

nocturnal

Definition:

Sentence:

Picture:



RACCOONS



LESSON PLAN



Day Two: Raccoon Habitats

Objective: The students will be able to identify where raccoons live and how they survive & thrive in their habitats.



LESSON PLAN: DAY TWO

Introduction (5 minutes):

*Teacher Says: Today, we are exploring more about where raccoons live. What do you remember about what we talked about yesterday? What is a habitat? A habitat is where an animal lives and eats. Raccoons typically live in forests, near water like rivers and lakes, cities & towns, and tree hollows or dens. Three important things for most animals to have in their habitat is shelter, food and water. Raccoons are super adaptable, meaning they can adjust to a variety of different habitats! Where do you think a raccoon might have the best chance of survival? Why?

RACCOONS

Lesson (15 minutes):

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

*After the video, the teacher will guide the students in completing the "Raccoon Habitat" graphic organizer. In the circles, the students will write four facts about raccoon habitats or examples of raccoon habitats.

Independent Work (10 minutes)

*The students will independently complete the "Fact or Fiction?" activity worksheet attached below. They will read each statement, color true statements in green and untrue statements in red.

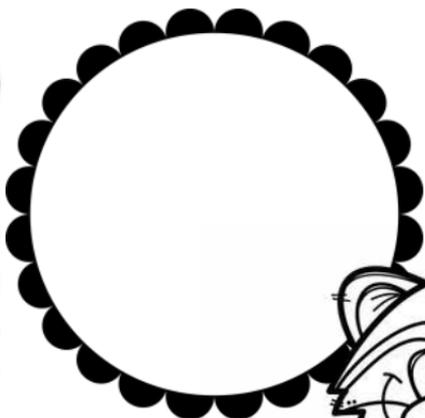
Closing (5 minutes)

*Review together the "Fact or Fiction?" worksheet as a whole group.

RACCOONS

RACCOON HABITATS

Directions: In the circles below, write four facts about raccoon habitats.



RACCOONS

FACT OR FICTION?

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

Raccoons live in water.

Raccoons can live in cities.

Raccoons can find food almost anywhere.

Raccoons also live in forests.

Raccoons only hunt for food during the day.

Raccoons also like to have a den or burrow.

Raccoons like to search in trash cans for food.

Raccoons live in the arctic.

RACCOONS

LESSON PLAN



Day Three: What Raccoons Eat

Objective: The students will be able to identify what raccoons eat and how they get their food.

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LESSON PLAN: DAY THREE

Introduction (5 minutes):

*Teacher Says: Today, we are going to learn more about what raccoons eat. Raccoons are omnivores, which means they eat both meat and plants. Raccoons will eat almost anything that they can find - fruits, plants, nuts, seeds, insects, fish, eggs, garbage, pet food and more! They find food at night & use their hands and paws to feel and grab their food. They can even use their paws/hands to open containers.

RACCOONS

Lesson (15 minutes):

*The teacher will read the book, "The Nature Kid's Guide to Raccoons: A Level 2 Reader for Curious Young Kids Who Love Raccoons!" Questions to ask during/after reading - What do raccoons eat? What is an omnivore? How do raccoons get their food? Why do they find food/hunt at night?

*In small groups, students will complete the "Raccoon Quick Check" attached below to assess for understanding.

Independent Work (10 minutes)

*The students will complete the "Raccoon Unscramble" attached below. Each word is associated with what a raccoon eats.

Closing (5 minutes)

*The teacher will give each student a sticky note or index card. They will write three things that raccoons eat!

RACCOONS

RACCOON QUICK CHECK

1. What do raccoons eat?

2. What is an omnivore?

3. How and what time of day do raccoons find their food?

RACCOONS

DIET UNSCRAMBLE

Directions: Unscramble each word associated with a raccoon's diet.

P L N S T A

A P L E P S

L V E A S E

O M I N V R O E

G B A R G E A

B G U S

W T E R A



RACCOONS

Lesson (15 minutes):

*The students will watch the video, "Raccoon Facts" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CDujzoCJ3Ig>

*Nocturnal Adventure Game: The teacher will turn off the lights in the classroom and hide different foods, toys or pictures around the room. Give the students flashlights and have them search quietly for the items you hide around the room. Discuss with the students different ways raccoons explore at night to find food.

Independent Work (10 minutes)

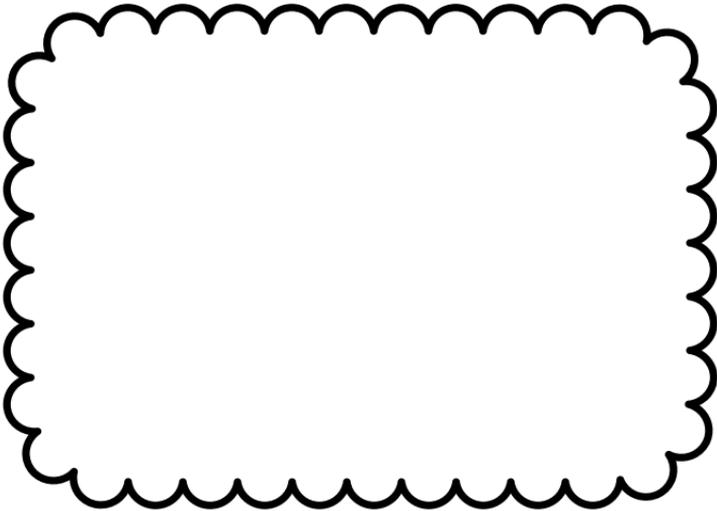
*The students will complete the "Life As A Nocturnal Animal" writing template attached below. They will write a paragraph on what raccoons do at night and why they are nocturnal, then draw a picture to go along with their paragraph.

Closing (5 minutes)

*The students will share their paragraphs with small groups or with the class.

RACCOONS

Life As A Nocturnal Animal



Five horizontal dashed lines for writing, arranged in a column below the drawing box.

RACCOONS



LESSON PLAN



Day Five: Raccoon Families

Objective: The students will be able to describe what raccoon families are like and define the word "kit".

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LESSON PLAN: DAY FIVE

Introduction (5 minutes):

*Teacher Says: Today, we will be learning more raccoon families. Raccoons are mammals, which means that they give birth to live young. Baby raccoons are called kits. A mother raccoon usually has 2-5 kits at a time. Kits are born very tiny and blind, so they stay with their mothers for months to develop, learn to climb and try new foods. They typically live in a safe den during this time such as a hollow tree, burrow, or cave. When they get old enough, they find their own homes.

RACCOONS

Lesson (15 minutes):

*The teacher will read the book, "The Kissing Hand" by Audrey Penn. Questions to ask after reading the book - Who are the main characters in the story? What is the relationship like between mother and kit in the story? How is their relationship similar to actual mother-kit relationships?

*The teacher will guide the students in completing the "Sequencing Events: The Kissing Hand" graphic organizer attached below.

Independent Work (10 minutes)

*The students will design and create a comic strip story about a raccoon family using four index cards. On each index card draw a picture of a scene from your story. On the back of the index card, write what is happening in the scene.

Closing (5 minutes)

*The students will discuss with the class what their favorite part of the unit was!

RACCOONS

SEQUENCING EVENTS

The Kissing Hand

#1

#2



#3

#4