

NIGHT EXPLORATIONS

Living with Wildlife, Activity 2

DETAILS



Outside



20-45
Minutes



Individual
or Group



Logic

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Throughout the day, animals hunt for food, gather nesting materials, look for mates and avoid predators, but when these animals go to sleep, a whole different set of animals just start to wake up. Animals are classified into different groups depending on what time, day or night, they are most active.

Diurnal animals, like butterflies or squirrels, are active during the majority of the day, while nocturnal animals, like great horned owls and bats are mostly active at night.

Crepuscular animals like cats and opossums prefer to be active at the edges of the day (dawn and dusk).

In this activity, we are heading outside as the sun goes down to see what animals are active at dusk or during the night.

HOW-TO

1. Prepare for adventure (5 minutes)

Discuss and decide with your adults on a safe place for you to explore for this adventure. This can be a park/green space, backyard, front yard or patio. Are you going as a group, or alone?

2. Head out (5 minutes)

Once the sun starts to go down, head out to your safe observation location and find a comfortable place to sit or stand.

3. Observation time (10 minutes)

Try using your senses of hearing, smell and sight to observe the wildlife around you, whether it is large or small.

After a few minutes move to a new spot or go for a walk. Remember, the slower and quieter you are the more likely you will observe wildlife.

4. Wrap-up (10-20 minutes)

Head home or back inside and record or share your thoughts, feelings and observations with your friends, family or adults.

MATERIALS

- Flashlight
- Weather Appropriate Clothing



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for more activities and fun.

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#woodlandparkzoo



FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS

- What animals did you see or hear?
- Have you observed these animals before?
- Why do you think these animals are active during this particular time?