

WILDLIFE CROSSING

Living with Wildlife, Activity 8

DETAILS



Outside
or Inside



10+
Minutes



Individual
or Group



Craft

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Let's face it, there are a lot of roads out there that people have created to get from one place to another in vehicles made to travel quickly. Many of these roads go right through the middle of lots of animal homes and can be very dangerous for them to cross.

In Washington State there is one major highway that has been getting some improvements to make it less dangerous for animals to cross, the Interstate 90. Some of these crossings on the I90 feature areas underneath the highway and some that are large overpasses or bridges. In this activity, you have been challenged to create a wildlife crossing or bridge!

HOW-TO

1. Gather supplies and make some space (5 minutes)

Depending on where you are and what materials you are going to use, make sure you have enough space! For example, are you creating a bridge out of pillows or drawing an underpass filled with safe places for animals to hide? A pillow fort will take up a larger space than your piece of paper.

2. Observe some animals (2 minutes)

Do you see some animals out a window, in a backyard, on a walk, or in your home? Notice how they are moving around. Are they flying or walking? Are they large animals or small animals?

3. Pick your animal (3 minutes)

Select an animal you observed or get creative and create an imaginary one! Decide what that animal would need to cross a busy highway.

3. Start building (10-20 minutes)

Time to get creative. Build, tear-down, and re-build your crossing until you find one you like.

4. Share your masterpiece (5 minutes)

Find a family member or friend then describe your overpass, underpass, or other crossing to them! With help from a guardian you can also take a picture or make a copy and send it to theden@zoo.org with answers to the follow-up questions.

MATERIALS

- Paper
- Colored Pencils/Paint
- Sticks/Leaves/Rocks
- Any other building supplies!



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FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS

- What is the most important part of your crossing?
- How might you build something for more than one animal?
- What was the most difficult part of creating your crossing?