



WILD WISE: COEXISTING WITH CARNIVORES

Program Overview
2017- 2018

Element 1: Carnivore Community Mapping and Pre-Assessment ○ ☒

Students will use community mapping to learn about the distribution of carnivores in their communities.

Element 2: Carnivore Community Mapping Analysis and Discussion ○ ☒

Students will use their community map to learn more about the natural and human-made landscape features that carnivores use to meet their needs.

Element 3: Community Interview Homework ○ ☒

Students will gain an understanding about the experiences people have sharing a landscape with carnivores.

Element 4: Woodland Park Zoo Field Trip: Wild Wise and Pacific Northwest Carnivores Programs ◇

During Wild Wise, students will learn about the wildland–urban interface, human-carnivore interactions across the landscape, and methods for researching mammalian carnivores. Zoo staff will also review the essential questions that will drive the students' scientific investigations.

During the Pacific Northwest Carnivores Program, students will tour the Northern Trail Exhibit and learn about the life history of carnivores found in the Pacific Northwest, including grizzly bears, black bears and gray wolves. Students will also learn about conservation topics relevant to the carnivores in their communities.

Element 5: Developing Investigation Questions and Predictions ○ ☒

Students will develop a comparative investigative question related to carnivore uses of the surrounding landscape. Students will also develop a prediction for their research question.

Element 6: Developing Your Research Methods and Collecting Data ◇ ☒

Students will develop research methods that will help them to gather data about the carnivores in their communities. Students will also learn about confounding factors and how to control for them in their study design.



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Element 7: Western Wildlife Outreach Bear Trailer Visit ○

Western Wildlife Outreach (WWO) is a local non-profit that works on sharing accurate information about large carnivores in our area and how we can coexist with them. Through a presentation and use of biofacts such as pelts and skulls, students gain further information on bear research and methods for coexistence within their community. Students also will have the opportunity to ask WWO staff questions that are specific to their classroom investigations, information on carnivores, and strategies to engage community members.

Element 8: Data Analysis and Conclusion Writing ○ ☒

Students will transform their raw data into useful information that they will use to answer their research question. They will then develop conclusions to inform others about the results and importance of their research.

Element 9: Presentation Building ○ ☒

Students will develop an informative and visually compelling communication tool. Students will use this communication tool to inform their peers and community members about their research process, including evidence-based recommendations for coexisting with carnivores.

Element 10: Final Presentations: Sharing Findings & Recommendations and Post-Assessment ◇ ☒ ☐

Each student group will present their research findings as well as their evidence-based recommendations for coexisting with the carnivores in their communities. Students will share an oral presentation (approximately 5 minutes) with other classes and with WPZ Education staff. Their communication tool supports their presentation. WPZ staff will use the Wild Wise: Coexisting with Carnivores rubric as a performance-based assessment of program outcomes.

Element 11: Community Event ◇

One to two student groups from each school will be selected to present their projects at an all-school community event. Groups will be selected based on the overall quality of their Sharing Findings & Recommendations presentations. The Community Event will be held at Issaquah Middle School on June 6th from approximately 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Additional student groups may display their projects during the event, but will not present to the full audience