

STEAM WITH THE PROGRAM TEAM

Animal Ecosystems *Science*

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Paper (2-4 Pages)
- Pencil
- Old Magazines
- Crayons
- Glue
- Scissors

THE SCIENCE:

What are some wild animals that live by you? Even if you live in the city you have wild animals living by you – like squirrels or birds flying by.

Wildlife does not depend on humans for survival but our pets do. Does the tree in your backyard need you to survive? The squirrel? How about your pet cat or dog? What about the plant that lives in your house? What about the deer in the woods?

Make a list of all the wild animals that live in your area? How many can you think of? Take 3 min. and then share your lists.

Now pick one animal from your list and share a fun fact about them.

Badge Steps

Take a look at the requirements and see if the activities will help you complete the following badge steps.

Daisy: Use Resources Wisely Petal, Step 2

Brownie: Painting Badge, Step 4

Junior: Scribe Badge, Step 1

Cadette: Book Artist, Steps 1 & 2

Senior: Collage Artist, Step 4

Ambassador: Photography Step 3

PA Education Standards

The content of all Girl Scout national proficiency Badges and Journeys have been correlated by grade level to national and state learning objectives.

Visit <https://www.girlscouts.org/en/adults/educators/curriculum-standards.html> for more information about how badges support the standards.

Finished with your badge? Now buy it for your uniform. Order online at <https://www.girlscoutshop.com/HEART-OF-PENNSYLVANIA-COUNCIL>.

We would love to see you in action! Snap a photo and sent it to marcomm@gshpa.org Please include name, troop #, and what she is working on.

ACTIVITY ONE: Habitat Collage

What is a habitat? A habitat is an environment where something lives and contains all that an animal needs to survive, food, water, shelter, etc.

What are some examples of a habitat? What is in the habitat?
Freshwater, marine water, rainforest, desert, artic, etc.

Did you know scientists use habitats to group animals by things they all share? How they look, move, and how they take care of their young.

Create your own animal habitat. Use magazines/newspapers and crayons/markers to find or draw a habitat for the animal of your choice. Use your list of wild animals for inspiration.

ACTIVITY TWO: Endangered Animals

Now you know what animals need in their habitat, why do animals become threatened (their population is beginning to decrease)?

What are some reasons animals could be threatened?

- Habitats are changed/destroyed
- Killed for sport/food/profit
- Natural event
- Climate Change
- Pollution
- Pesticides
- Invasive Species – species introduced to a new habitat that endangers the native species.

Ecosystem Web:

1. Tell the girls that all the things living and non in an ecosystem are connected together, so if one is endangered all can be threatened.
2. Screen share Food Web doc and have the girls pick with plant or animal they want to be.
3. Tell them there was a large corporate farm that used too much pesticide and killed all the butterflies. Anyone who picked butterfly turn their screen off or make an X with their arms. They are out of the game.
4. Have the rest of the girls look to see if they are connected to the butterfly, if they do, they are X out too. Have them turn of the video or make an X with the arms.
5. Repeat until you make it through the web and everyone is X.
6. Talk to the girls about how every level of the web is important and small actions can have big consequences.

A Food Web

