

Lesson Title: Wildlife Detective**Overview:**

Students will be able to identify wildlife species, their evidence, and adaptations through the following activities: watching Washington Forest Protection Association (WFPA) wildlife detective video, wildlife adaptation chart, and follow up thoughts, and a narrative, descriptive or expository writing extensions.

Standards (Working towards):**4th grade**

Science: 4-LS1-1 Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior and reproduction.

ELA: CCSS.ELA.W.4.2.D Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.

Washington Social Studies: E2.4.3 Identify examples of the variety of resources (human capital, physical capital, and natural resources) that are used to produce goods and services in Washington state.

5th grade

Science: 5-LS2-1 Develop a model to describe the movement of matter among plants, animals, decomposers and the environment.

ELA: CCSS.ELA.W.5.2.D Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.

Washington Social Studies: E2.5.2 Identify examples of the variety of resources (human capital, physical capital, and natural resources) that are used to produce goods and services.

Objective: Students will be able to learn how wildlife adapts to their environment and know what evidence of wildlife they could find in the forest.

Lesson Description

Pre-Lessons:

- Brainstorm about wildlife that lives in the Pacific Northwest.
- Have students write down wildlife evidence that might be found in the forest (bones, nests, cavities, rub marks, tracks, scat, etc.) Compare answers.
- Brainstorm about why wildlife adapts to their environment.

Post Lessons:

- Pick one wildlife animal, write an expository paragraph talking about how their animal adapts using those keywords including coloring and pattern, behavior, defense, and dietary needs.
- Write a narrative paragraph about the life of your favorite wildlife species.
- Write a poem about a wildlife species from the Pacific Northwest.
- Write a persuasive paragraph about why your wildlife species is important to the forest.
- How has your family adapted to COVID-19? What has changed? Write a narrative paragraph about how your family has adapted.
- What adaptation would you create for yourself if you had the ability (superhero powers)? Write a paragraph about your new ability.
- PLT Activity -Charting Diversity <https://www.plt.org/activity-resources/prek-8-activity-10-charting-diversity/>

Instruction:

Fill out the table below listing at least one wildlife animal underneath each one of these categories and describe how they display those adaptations.

| Color and Patterns | Behavior | Defense | Dietary |
|--------------------|----------|---------|---------|
| | | | |

Extension:

- Take a hike through a park or forest with your family and look for wildlife evidence (become a wildlife detective) and think about how they adapt to their environment.
- Make a wildlife journal and make a record of all the wildlife or evidence you find.
- Read books about wildlife that live in the Pacific Northwest.
- Visit Northwest Trek <https://www.nwtrek.org/>
- Visit Wolf Haven <https://wolfhaven.org/>
- Visit Oregon Zoo <https://www.oregonzoo.org/>

Resources:

- Claudine Reynolds- Port Blakely Wildlife Biologist
- Various websites on wildlife adaptation
- Neighborwood FB page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/4495891857149300/>
- Pacific Education Institute (PEI) <https://pacifieducationinstitute.org/>
- Washington Forest Protection Association (WFPA) <https://www.wfpa.org/>
- Project Learning Tree (PLT) <https://www.plt.org/>

What was your favorite wildlife and why?

Create your own poem with your favorite wildlife species and share with your class.

B big and strong

E eat variety of food- omnivores

A aware of their surroundings

R restful when hibernating



S soaring through the canopy

Q quick moving

U unique chattering

I intelligent

R reddish-orange bellies

R resourceful at storing food

E entertaining

L loving creatures adding joy to our forest

