

Gr. 1 Fall Walk– Summary Animal Survival Needs (2009)

Goal:

All animals need food, water, shelter, air, and warmth to survive
Different animals need different habitats to meet their needs
We share the playground with animals

Materials: clipboard and worksheet for vol. leader to write down children's ideas, and sticks with "food, water, shelter, air "and "warmth" written on them.

Indoor Prep: teacher **10 minutes** review animal survival needs and word *habitat*, behavior guidelines.

Outdoor Prep: 5 minutes in small group or while walking

What animals do you think live here? When are they active? What might we see? Will we scare them? Our school is their home. Why did they choose to live here? This place has all they need.

*A **habitat** has everything an animal needs, can you name the things an animal needs?:*

Food

Water

Air

Shelter (protection)

Warmth (including sunlight)

Our goal is to look for animals and signs they have been here (food, shelters, scat etc.) I'll keep a list of what we find. Stay together so you don't miss it when we spot something

Walk: 40 minutes - Looking for animals and signs of animals (food, shelters, scat). Leader records:

SITE #1 WOODS NEAR WETU:

Look for leaf holes, holes in wood, berries, insects –If you don't know name of a bug you find have kids name it. New insects are discovered all the time and scientist name them. Look for holes in ground. Look under *one* log. (stand on one side with kids on other side, roll log toward you, afterward *roll it back*). Slugs – if you hold it in your hand antennae will come out. Don't let kids run around rolling logs. You'll lose focus and kill a lot of insects. Explain if you don't roll it back, that side of wood will dry out and you've ruined a little habitat. Look under one rock for ant eggs. *Put rock back* carefully.

SITE #2 EDGE OF WOODS AND FIELD

Berries - many poisonous to us (Pokeweed, Deadly Nightshade, Poison Ivy). Burdock seeds – hard center, may have a larvae inside it. Compare crab apple to rose hip – open it up to look inside.

SITE #3 UNMOWN GRASS AND FOX HOLE (STONE WALL)

Grasshoppers, Chewed leaves, weed seed, Meadow mouse tunnels (evidence of their hiding strategy) Animals are eating, but don't want to get eaten. Look for holes in ground. Fox den near stone wall.

SITE #4 GARDEN AND HEDGE NEAR CLIMBING STRUCTURE

Chipmunk tunnels in raised garden bed, bulbs, roots to eat, Leaves, Seeds . Raspberries to eat with thorns to protect nesting area. Rabbits and birds feel safe in these thick overgrown forsythia branches.

WRAP UP: 5 minutes - Read list of their observations of evidence of animals and food sources.

Can children and animals share this habitat? What areas are important to animals? What makes animals feel safe here? What areas are important to children? How can we live together?

What changed from schoolyard last year near summer? What do the animals do IF FLOWERS GONE and INSECTS GONE . What do animals do in winter? We'll discuss on the next walk.