

Nocturnal Animals Scavenger Hunt Activity

Materials:

- 18 nocturnal animals fact cards (pages 2–6)
- nocturnal animals questions worksheet (pages 7–8)
- scissors
- scotch tape

Preparation

Print the fact cards and cut them apart.

Make copies of the nocturnal animals questions worksheet (2-sided). Each student will need his or her own copy.

Hide the 18 nocturnal animals fact cards around your classroom where students will be



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Management tips

You may want to make this a silent activity so students don't share answers with each other.

You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.

Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.

Examples of good hiding spots might include:

- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
- the back of the classroom door
- lying flat on the classroom bookshelf
- on the side of the bookshelf
- on the back of the teacher's chair

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.



Scavenger Hunt

Nocturnal Animals

Fact Card

1



Nocturnal animals are awake and active when the sun goes down at night. At night, they hunt, avoid

Scavenger Hunt

Nocturnal Animals

Fact Card

2



Owls have evolved large eyes to help them see in the dark. Their eyes are so big they can't move them; they move



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Animals

3



Camouflage helps leopards hunt at night. Leopards' spots help them blend into their surroundings so they can creep up on their prey.

Animals

4



Some freshwater turtles use nocturnal basking (lying in the moonlight)

to regulate their body temperature when the water temperatures are too high. Instead of basking in the sun, they bask in the moonlight.



Scavenger Hunt

Nocturnal Animals

Fact Card

5



Owls have three sets of eyelids to protect their large eyes. One

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Nocturnal Animals

Fact Card

6



Aardvarks use their great sense of smell to forage for food at night by



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Animals

7



Listening to their prey's breathing is one way vampire bats find their prey at night. Once found, they lap up their prey's blood for up to 30 minutes.

Animals

8



Some nocturnal snakes find their prey by smell. They flick their tongues in the air and then back into their mouths to smell if their prey is near.

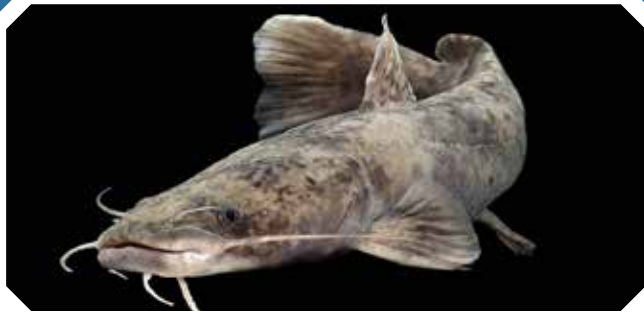


Scavenger Hunt

Nocturnal Animals

Fact Card

9



Catfish have over 100,000 taste buds on their skin. They use their

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Nocturnal Animals

Fact Card

10



Two frilly tails help luna moths



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Animals

11



Tigers have forward-facing eyes that help them see with binocular vision. Binocular vision gives tigers great depth perception when hunting at night.

Animals

12



Bats use echolocation to fly and hunt at night. They release a high-pitched sound that bounces off objects. This tells them where their prey is and how far away they are.



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Fact Card

13



Leopards can rotate their ears 180 degrees. This helps them hear faint sounds and the vibrations of

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Fact Card

14



Pythons hunt in the dark by using heat sensors to find their prey. They sense their prey's body



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Animals

15



When hedgehogs detect danger, they curl into a ball to protect their head and legs leaving their body, which is covered in sharp spines, exposed.

They have bad eyesight but have great senses of hearing and smell.

Animals

16



Possums come out at night to hunt for food. They see well in the dark. If they see a predator they hide, climb trees, or play dead.



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Fact Card

17



When the sand becomes cool, sea turtle hatchlings come out at night.

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Nocturnal Animals

Fact Card

18



Scorpions use the hunting tactic of surprise to catch their prey. They hide in the dark and



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Name: _____

Side A

Nocturnal Animals Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: When do nocturnal animals sleep?

Fact Card 2: What have owls evolved to help them see in the dark?

Fact Card 3: What do leopards use to help them blend into their surroundings?



Fact Card 6: Aardvarks use what body part to forage for food?

Fact Card 7: What is one way vampire bats find their prey?

Fact Card 8: Some snakes use what body part to smell?

Fact Card 9: Where are catfish taste buds located?

Nocturnal Animals Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 10: What do luna moths use to help them escape from predators?

Fact Card 11: What does binocular vision give tigers when they hunt at night?

Fact Card 12: What do bats use to hunt at night?



Fact Card 15: What are hedgehogs' bodies covered in?

Fact Card 16: What do possums do if they see a predator?

Fact Card 17: What time of day do sea turtle hatchlings come out?

Fact Card 18: What is a hunting tactic of scorpions?

Nocturnal Animals Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: When do nocturnal animals sleep?

during the day

Fact Card 2: What have owls evolved to help them see in the dark?



Fact Card 9: Where are catfish taste buds located?

on their skin

Nocturnal Animals Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 10: What do luna moths use to help them escape from predators?

tails

Fact Card 11: What does binocular vision give tigers when they hunt at night?

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Fact Card 18: What is a hunting tactic of scorpions?

surprise