

## Attitudes about Animals

Background: This is a stand-alone lesson or one that can be used as a pre-visit lesson prior to a field trip or a guest visit by a ranger.

Grade: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

Subject: Science, biology, ecology, zoology, environmental studies

Time Frame: One short homework assignment and one or two class periods

### Objectives:

- 1) Students will conduct and complete a simple social-science experiment (MS Sixth grade Science Competency 1)

### Materials:

- 1) Copies of
  - a. 2 copies of the Animal Survey Sheet for each student
  - b. 1 copy of the 2-page Experiment Form for each student
  - c. 1 copy of Data Collection Form for each student or group
- 2) One sheet of lined or plain paper
- 3) Graph paper
- 4) Pencil

### Method:

- 1) The students will fill out the "How I think people will feel about the animals" table to help determine their own attitude about certain animals
- 2) Each student will give 2 people the Animal Survey Sheet and have those people rate how they feel about the animal. (possible homework assignment)
- 3) The students will combine their information into a group or class Data Collection Form (each student or group will need a form if they are to work on their own)
- 4) The students will make bar or line graphs from the results on the data collection form
- 5) The students will compare how they THOUGHT people would feel about animals to how a random survey group reports how they personally feel about the same animals. The teacher may also give instructions to the student to compare the results with the scientific groups, such as carnivore, herbivore, and omnivore.

Instructions: Look at the survey sheet. You will be giving the Animal Survey Sheet to 2 people to fill out.

Before you give out the Animal Survey Sheet, sort the animals listed on the survey sheet into the groups listed below according to how you think most people feel about the animals. There are no right or wrong answers; this part is based on your opinion and what you know about the animals. If you don't know anything about the animal, do some quick research.

List each animal only one time under the heading below that you feel best fits people's attitude about that animal.

How I think people will feel about the animals					
Animals people hate	Animals people don't want to be near	Animals people don't care about one way or another	Animals people think are okay	Animals people like	Animals people would like to see more of

Hypothesis: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Think of a hypothesis sentence that states what you think the results of the survey will be. You may want to include which group will have the most likes or dislikes.)

Procedure:

1) Part 1: Survey collection:

Page 2 Experiment Form

- Put your name at the top of the Animal Survey Sheets as the student giving the survey. You do not need to get the name of the person taking the survey.
- Ask the person if they have taken this survey before, if they have, find someone else.
- Show the person how to fill it out, but do NOT watch them or make comments while they fill it out.
- Thank the person and bring your completed Animal Survey Sheets to class.

Results:

- 2) Together as a class or group, combine your results of the Animal Survey Sheets and fill out the Date Collection Form
- 3) Make a bar or line graph showing the data.

Conclusion:

Explain how your classification fit or did not fit the results.








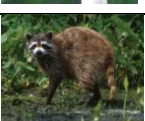




Data Collection Form

In each box, write the total number of people who checked that box on the surveys.

Total number of surveys given for this group or class \_\_\_\_\_

	I totally hate it	I don't want to be anywhere near it	Don't care one way or another	It's okay	I like it	I would like to see more of these animals
Mouse						
Deer						
Copperhead						
Red fox						
Black bear						
Turkey						
Warbler						
Raccoon						
Sunfish						
Salamander						
Box Turtle						
Bobcat						

Animal Survey Sheet: Student giving the survey \_\_\_\_\_

	I totally hate it	I don't want to be anywhere near it	Don't care one way or another	It's okay	I like it	I would like to see more of these animals
 <p>Mouse</p>						
 <p>Deer</p>						
 <p>Copperhead</p>						
 <p>Red fox</p>						
 <p>Black bear</p>						
 <p>Turkey</p>						
 <p>Warbler</p>						
 <p>Raccoon</p>						
 <p>Sunfish</p>						
 <p>Salamander</p>						
 <p>Box Turtle</p>						
 <p>Bobcat</p>						