

Guess Hoo's for Dinner

Rangers in the Classroom—Pre-visit Lesson Plan

Create-A-Creature



Grade Level: 5th

Setting: Classroom

Duration: 1 hour

Standards Addressed:

- ° Listening & Speaking:
1.6
- ° Life Sciences:
2.c.

Introduction:

Welcome to Rangers in the Classroom! We are looking forward to visiting your class for our Guess Hoo's for Dinner program about owls. To help prepare your class for the ranger visit, we have created a pre-visit activity to introduce your students to some of the concepts we will cover in our program. If you are interested in additional preparation, the program outline includes a vocabulary list and can easily be found on the website at:

<http://www.nps.gov/seki/forteachers/index.htm>. By exploring a few concepts and vocabulary words with your students prior to our visit, you will help us hit the ground running.

Have fun and we'll see you soon!

Materials:

° "The Perfect Nocturnal Predator" worksheets (one per student)

- ° Pencils
- ° Colored pencils, crayons, or markers
- ° Construction paper
- ° Butcher paper/poster board (optional)
- ° Tape or glue

Instructions:

1. Divide students into small groups or pairs.
2. Have students complete the following worksheet as a group.
3. Have students each create their own individual sketch. Each student will create a portrait of the nocturnal predator that shows the features they came up with on the group worksheet.
4. Have students present their portraits in a group, as a species of nocturnal predators and as individual members of the species.
5. Display the students' portraits in the classroom so that the ranger can see them when they visit your class!

Guess Hoo's for Dinner

Rangers in the Classroom—Pre-visit Activity



The Perfect Nocturnal Predator

Imagine what it would take to be a nocturnal predator in Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks. What special skills, abilities or adaptations would make *you* the ideal nighttime hunter? Use your imagination and create a new species...the perfect nocturnal predator!

Answer the following questions as a group.

1. What senses would be most important to have to survive at night?
2. How would you stay camouflaged during the daytime?
3. What would you eat? How would you hunt and capture your prey?
4. What would you look like? List the features you would have.
5. You have just described your new nocturnal creature. Give your new species a name!
6. There is a lot of variation within species. For example, humans vary greatly in hair color, eye color, skin color, and body shape. Use your ideas from above to draw a portrait of yourself as the new, nocturnal predator. Try to incorporate as many of your group's common ideas as possible. (Draw on a separate piece of paper.)
7. Present your pictures to the class, highlighting your special adaptations that make you the perfect nocturnal predator!