



Learn more about the bison by ordering our "American Bison" traveling trunk at [www.nps.gov/tapr](http://www.nps.gov/tapr)

The reintroduction of bison to the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve in October of 2009 marked the return of one of the original large mammals of the prairie. This small herd was part of a larger group rounded up at Wind Cave National Park in South Dakota. Read the booklet, "Return of the Bison" to see how the bison round-up works.



bison track



to view bison safety videos, go to [www.nps.gov/yell](http://www.nps.gov/yell) and click on wildlife safety video. (Caution...this is a real-life video of a bison/visitor encounter)

The preserve currently has 13 head of bison, with plans to eventually have a herd of 80-100. They are contained in an 1100-acre pasture of tallgrass prairie, and live there the year-round. It is an excellent opportunity for visitors to view the bison in their native habitat. Like all wild animals though, they need a certain amount of distance between themselves and humans to feel comfortable. If we get too close to them, they might run

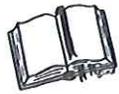
away, ruining our chance to observe them. So, before heading out, visitors are given some tips on how to behave around the bison. This is for their own safety, as well as the safety of the bison.



bison cow and calf



Bison will give birth during April and May. The mother will lick the calf clean, and the calf will learn the scent and sound of its mother. Within just a few minutes after birth, the calf can stand up, and in just a few hours will be ready to run. The other cows in the herd will all help to look after the calf to keep it safe.



vocabulary counts!

*nocturnal*

Despite the loss of many of the large animal species, many of the mid-size animals are still plentiful.

With the elimination of bear and wolves, the coyote has assumed the role of the largest predator on the Kansas prairie. The coyote, once called the “prairie wolf” is a member of the dog family. It is very adaptable and has succeeded in maintaining its presence in just about every region of the United States. Although you may be lucky enough to see one, you’re more likely to hear them howling in the early morning

or evening. They howl to communicate with each other. Coyotes have amazing endurance. They can run over 30 miles an hour, and maintain a steady trot for hours. This stamina and adaptability has ensured the success of the coyote in the face of heavy persecution.

*coyote*



*Listen to the coyote and fox on the Wildlife Sounds CD*

Red foxes are found in fields and wooded areas. This member of the dog family is primarily *nocturnal*, but may be seen during the day. Like coyotes, they have adapted to human encroachment and will often be seen in urban interface and residential areas. Also, because coyotes will prey on foxes, the foxes will often move to town areas to escape. When hunting, they stalk their prey like cats. It eats mostly rodents, but will also kill rabbits and birds as well. Interestingly, just before attacking, they will often jump into the air and pounce down on their prey. Once they catch it, they might play with their prey before eating it.



*red fox*



*fox pouncing on prey under snow*



*white-tailed deer*

White-tailed deer are plentiful in the preserve. Its most distinctive marking is its white tail, which it displays when it bounds off through the woods or meadows. The best time to observe them is at dusk or dawn, when they are out feeding. They may also wander away from the trees and out into the meadow to forage on the grasses. The adult male deer is called a buck, and he will grow a new set of antlers each spring and shed them by late winter. Finding deer antlers in the woods is hard to do though

because mice and squirrels will gnaw on the antlers to obtain nutrients. In June, when the female deer, or doe, is about to give birth, she leaves the other deer and goes off alone. Her first birth is usually a single fawn; after that she usually gives birth to twins and occasionally triplets.



*Listen to the white-tailed deer and the bobcat on the Wildlife Sounds CD.*

*deer and two fawns*



*bobcat*



Although not easily observed, the bobcat also resides in the preserve. It is very solitary and is one of the most secretive of cats. It is primarily nocturnal and rarely seen. You might, however, be lucky enough to find its tracks. It feeds mostly on rabbits, rodents, or squirrels.

Most members of the cat family bury their scat by scraping dirt over it. House cats that use the litter box are a good illustration of this. Bobcats will cover their scat about half the time. Sometime between March and May, bobcats will give birth to two or three kittens. Like your housecat kittens, they will stay with the mother, who feeds them milk and keeps them warm. After about four weeks, the kittens will venture out of their den and will also start eating meat the mother brings them.



Badgers are members of the weasel family and are also found in the preserve. They have long claws and powerful legs for digging into the ground in search of rodents. They are solitary, very territorial, and have a reputation for being aggressive toward intruders. They dig new holes for their dens just about every night.



*badger*

### ACTIVITY #10

Read "Return of the Bison" and "Coyotes" to the class.

Let the students handle the bison hide from the Observation Trail bag.

# Lesson F: Small Mammals

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## Objectives:

- Students will learn about some of the smaller mammals found in the preserve today.

## Materials:

- \_\_\_ Small Mammal Scramble
- \_\_\_ Predator / Prey puppet show kit
- \_\_\_ Pocket Guide to Kansas Mammals

## Curriculum Standards:

### Life Science

B1 - the student will develop knowledge of organisms in their environment.

B2 - the students will observe and illustrate the life cycles of various organisms.

### Physical Science

B3 - the student will recognize and demonstrate what makes sounds.



Besides the larger and mid-sized animals, there are also many smaller animals that are also expected to be living in the preserve. They can often times be easier to observe than the larger animals.

Along the wooded creeks and streams, we might find squirrels, opossums, raccoons, woodrats, and skunks.



*Franklin's ground squirrel*



vocabulary counts!

*omnivorous*



*striped skunk*



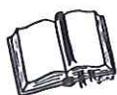
Striped skunks belong in the same family as the mink, weasel, and the otter. They are nocturnal, and will usually be on the move at night, but can occasionally be seen during the daytime. They are usually seen shuffling along with their nose to the ground, searching out almost anything to eat. *Omnivorous*, it will eat carrion (dead animals), mice, insects, fruits, and vegetables. It is best known for the strong offensive odor resulting from the act of spraying, a defensive strategy. Skunks are easy to observe, since they usually ignore humans, but it doesn't go very far from its den. Beware if it stands on its front feet with its tail over its back...it's getting ready to spray, and it can spray up to 12 feet...accurately!



The raccoon is one of the most popular of animals. It is also one of the most common and successful. Like the coyote, it has adapted well to the encroachment of humans. It often will raid trash cans and pet food dishes if left outside. Its natural food includes aquatic life, berries, and nuts.



*raccoon*



vocabulary counts!

*prehinsile*

Raccoons prefer trees, burrows, or other protected spots in which to den. However, in the winter, pregnant female raccoons will look for old trees with large rotted-out cavities to use as breeding dens. There are usually 3-5 babies per litter, born in the early spring. They will stay in the tree until they are about 2 months old and by the fall the young will begin to disperse.



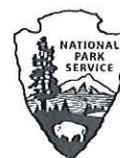
*how many teeth do humans have?*

One of the most amazing animals found in the preserve is the opossum. As a marsupial, it is related to kangaroos and koala bears. It is the only mammal in Kansas with a pouch for carrying its young. The young live in the mother's pouch during their two-month development. Its 50 teeth are also the most for any mammal in Kansas. Their *prehensile* tails are used to grab branches while climbing or holding onto nesting material like leaves or grass. When threatened, the opossum may go into shock and with eyes closed remain motionless for some time, "playing possum". It will eventually come out of it and continue on its way.



*opossum*





*black-tailed jackrabbit*



In the grasslands we'll find the jackrabbits, cottontail rabbits, prairie pocket gopher, voles, mice, moles, and shrews.

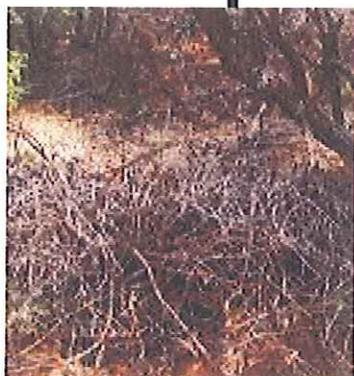
The black-tailed jackrabbit can occasionally be seen in the preserve. You have to be quick to see them, since they can run up to 40 miles per hour and can leap 10 feet between steps. They really prefer the native prairie and so the loss of habitat has caused the greatest decline in jackrabbits.



*eastern woodrat*



The eastern woodrat can grow to be 12 inches long. This "packrat" earned that name because of the many odd items it takes to its nest. If you see a large mound of twigs in the woodland, it is probably the nest of the woodrat. It has many different rooms built into it for different reasons. One room is lined with shredded bark and soft material used for shelter and raising young. Other rooms might be used for food storage, waste deposits, or for shelter during extremely cold temperatures.



*woodrat nests*





### ACTIVITY #11

Have some of the students perform the Predator-Prey or FIRE! puppet shows for the class, using the puppets and the appropriate backdrop pictures provided.

### ACTIVITY #12

Have the students try the Small Mammal Scramble activity on page 43. Answer key on page 62.

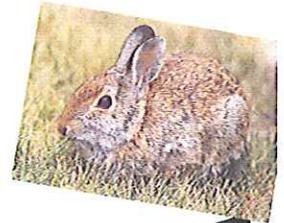


## Small Mammal Scramble

See if you can unscramble the letters to find some of the smaller mammals that live in the tallgrass prairie.



RP AEIRI LVEO



TOKECP GPHREO



LCIOATNOTT TBIRAB



DOWO TAR



DRAGEB

SLERIRUQ



DSETRPI NUSKK

NOARCO C

MOPUSOS



REDE EOMUS

TUSRAMK



CTBAOB



# Lesson G: Reptiles/ Amphibians

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## Objectives:

- Students will learn about the more common reptiles and amphibians found in Kansas.
- Students will learn the differences between reptiles and amphibians.

## Materials:

- \_\_\_ Pocket Guide to Kansas Snakes
- \_\_\_ book "Everything Reptile"
- \_\_\_ DVD Eyewitness Amphibians

## Curriculum Standards:

### Life Science

- B1 - the student will develop knowledge of organisms in their environment.
- B2 - the student will recognize and illustrate the life cycles of various organisms.

### Physical Science

- B3 -the student will recognize and demonstrate what makes sounds.



The tallgrass prairie is home to several dozen species of reptiles and amphibians. Reptiles and amphibians need a variety of cover for shelter and the preserve is rich in natural cover. Lots of flat limestone rocks, some wetlands, and riparian areas all provide suitable cover for snakes, lizards, turtles, frogs and toads.

Amphibians and reptiles differ in many ways. Amphibians depend on moisture for their existence. They have moist skin, and easily lose that body moisture if they are away from water for very long. Reptiles are usually covered by scales, and as they grow larger, they shed their skin. If you're lucky, you might be able to see a snakeskin as you hike around the preserve. Amphibians do not have claws on their feet, whereas most reptiles do.



*Can you think of a reptile that does not have claws?  
(...snakes!)*

Reptiles are hatched or born as miniature versions of the adults, just like humans are. Turtles, lizards, and most snakes lay their eggs underground, and the warmth of the sun in the spring controls the incubation process. A few snakes, like rattlesnakes and garter snakes, keep the eggs inside their bodies and give birth to live babies.



*snake eggs*

Snakes have a bad reputation, mostly due to a few species, such as the rattlesnakes. But snakes do provide a lot of valuable benefits to farmers as well as everyone else. They eat a lot of rodents which would otherwise consume a significant portion of their crops. Those crops feed us and provide money for the farmer and his family.

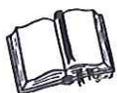


*rattlesnake*

Out of 36 species of rattlesnakes in the United States, only one kind of rattlesnake is found in the preserve...the massasauga rattlesnake. They are likely to be found in any of the habitats in the preserve, so keep a sharp eye out wherever you go. Shy and seldom seen, it is a snake you don't want to get too close to. Even though they are venomous, not all bites contain the venom. It's also important to remember that very few people die each year from rattlesnake bites.



*Listen to the sound of the rattlesnake on the Wildlife Sounds CD.*



vocabulary counts!

Snakes are plentiful in the preserve, and the best time to observe them is during the spring and early summer. They are more active during that time after a winter's *dormancy*, during which time their body temperature lowers enough to make them inactive. As the days grow warmer in the spring, so do the snakes, and they eventually venture out in search of food. When the summer days get too hot, many of them become nocturnal and lay in a cool spot during the hottest part of the day.

*dormancy*



*eastern racer*

One of the most commonly seen snakes in the spring is the Eastern Racer. It is a harmless snake frequently found in open grassland and pasture during the summer. Usually a dark green in color, with a cream or yellow-colored belly, they are often seen in and around the buildings of the preserve, hunting for insects, frogs, lizards, birds, and small mammals.



*western rat snake*

The Western Rat Snake is another harmless snake commonly seen around the buildings. They prefer forested areas and are frequently seen climbing trees in search of food. Don't be surprised if you spot one of these large, jet-black snakes climbing the outside of the historic house, looking for a meal.



vocabulary  
counts

The largest snake in Kansas, and one that's also found in the preserve, is the Gopher Snake, also called a Bullsnake. It can grow up to nine feet long, and weigh up to eight pounds. It prefers open grasslands and *cultivated* fields where it can find plenty of rodents.

- *cultivated*



*gopher snake*

### ACTIVITY #13



Fear of snakes is common among people. Discuss some snake experiences the students have had.

Share the book, "Everything Reptile".

Based on their new knowledge of snakes, how do they feel now about snakes?



When walking along the limestone outcrops in the preserve, keep an eye out for the collared lizard. This common lizard is fairly easy to observe up close. During the spring and early summer, the males brilliant light-green bodies and orange throats are an attractive sight to see. They are very good hunters, often searching for insects. If they need to reach top speeds to escape a predator, they will get up on their hind legs to run.



*collared lizard*



vocabulary counts!

*docile*

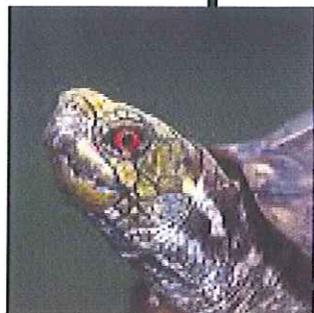
Another common lizard is the Texas horned lizard, commonly called the “horny toad.” It eats ants, and has very few predators because of its formidable “horns”. Although fierce and prehistoric-looking, it is rather *docile* and will attempt to burrow beneath the sand to hide.



*“horns” of horned lizard*



*Texas horned lizard*



*male*



*female*

Probably the easiest reptile to watch and get close to is the ornate box turtle, which happens to be Kansas' state reptile. Slow-moving, it may travel just a few hundred feet in a day, although it may range over a four to five acre territory. They are up and around during the day, spending their time feeding, resting, or basking in the sun. It is easy to tell the sex of these turtles. The males have red eyes and the female's eyes are yellow.

In the winter, they will use other animals' underground burrows, or else dig their own, digging as deep as eighteen inches. In the spring, when the weather gets warm and damp, they will emerge. They feed mostly on insects, but also like fruit and berries.





Amphibians can be more challenging to find in the preserve. Some of them will most likely be heard before you see them. Amphibians include frogs, toads, and salamanders. They spend a lot of time on land, but they must return to water to reproduce. So the cattle ponds found in the preserve become suitable breeding ponds for the amphibians during the spring and summer. Small pools along the streams also serve as good breeding sites. In the spring, buffalo wallows throughout the preserve also collect rainwater and provide excellent habitat for a variety of plants, insects, and amphibians.



*Listen to the Western Chorus Frog on the Wildlife Sounds CD*

Once the air has warmed, the frogs will gather around standing water and begin chirping, announcing their intentions to begin mating. The female will lay hundreds, or maybe even thousands, of eggs, since most of the young will be eaten by fish, turtles, or wading birds. Laying many eggs will ensure that at least some of the young will survive to become adults.



*western chorus frog*



vocabulary counts

*metamorphosis.*

Amphibians eggs are soft and cling together in a substance that resembles soft jello. They must be kept wet or else the eggs would dry up and die. Amphibians also develop in stages, called *metamorphosis*. They start out as soft bunches of eggs floating in still water. Once hatched, they grow into tadpoles (frogs and toads) or larvae (salamanders) which continue to undergo changes until two months later, when they resemble adults.



*Listen to the  
Bullfrog on the  
Wildlife Sounds  
CD*

The preserve has five kinds of toads and five kinds of frogs. The bullfrog is probably the most well-known of the frogs. His deep “singing” voice helps to attract a mate. In the preserve, hunting is not allowed. In other parts of Kansas, however, the bullfrog is hunted for its meat, especially the legs.



*bullfrog*

#### ACTIVITY #14

Have the students watch Eyewitness Amphibians.

# Lesson H: Insects



## Objectives:

- Students will learn about the more common insects found in Kansas.

## Materials:

\_\_\_Eyewitness Insect DVD/book

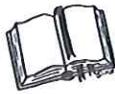
## Curriculum Standards:

### Life Science

- B1 - the student will develop knowledge of organisms in their environment.
- B2 - the student will observe and illustrate the life cycles of various organisms.

### Physical Science

- B3 - the student will recognize and demonstrate what makes sounds.



vocabulary  
counts

*exoskeleton*

Insects are the most numerous creatures on earth. They make up more than half of all the species alive today, and about 90 % of all the animals on the planet. Their ability to reproduce quickly, their *exoskeleton*, and their insulated nervous system are some reasons why they are so successful. Ants, flies, beetles, grasshoppers, butterflies, dragonflies, ladybugs, and bees all belong to the insect family.

Bees, butterflies, dung beetles, grasshoppers, deer flies, cicadas, and lightning bugs are some of the more common and observable insects in the preserve.

Thirty-nine different species of butterflies have also been documented in the preserve. They feed by sucking nectar from all of the different wildflowers growing on the prairie. One common butterfly is the Monarch butterfly. It spends the summer in the central United States and Canada.



To learn more about  
monarchs, go to  
[www.monarch-butterfly.com](http://www.monarch-butterfly.com)



*Monarch  
Butterfly*

But in the fall, they will fly south to Mexico to spend the winter. They usually come through Kansas in September. The following spring, they will fly north again, arriving in Kansas sometime in June. Along the way, they will mate and lay eggs on the milkweed plants in the preserve. These adults will soon die, but the butterflies that hatch during the summer will return to Mexico in the fall.



vocabulary  
counts

*infestations*

Grasshoppers are very abundant on the prairie. They are among the oldest of insects, dating back 300 million years ago to the time of the dinosaurs. More than 600 species live in North America, and as many as 40 different species of grasshoppers can be found in the preserve. They feed on plant material; everything from grasses and flowers to crops, vegetables, and fruit trees. Grasshoppers have huge appetites and have played major roles in historic *infestations* in the Midwest.

One of the easiest grasshoppers to observe is the Lubber, the largest grasshopper in the preserve. It has very short wings, so it cannot fly. But, its very strong hind legs allow it to jump a distance twenty times its length.

*Lubber grasshopper*



They are fairly easy to catch and large enough to look at without a magnifying glass. Just be sure not to harm them while observing them.

*dung beetles rolling  
a ball of dung*



Dung beetles are fascinating bugs to watch. These black beetles will find the dung (poop) of other animals, (often cattle) chew it into small pieces, and then roll it into a ball. Then two beetles will work together to roll the ball to another site, where the two will burrow under the ball and dig out from underneath it until the ball sinks underground. The female then lays her eggs inside the ball, and it provides food and shelter for the larvae during their development. These beetles can occasionally be seen on the roads in the preserve as they go rolling along, intent on moving their dung treasure.



*Listen to the cicada on  
the Wildlife Sounds  
CD*

*cicada*



The cicada is a familiar insect in Kansas. At least we're familiar with the sound it makes in the summer. The loud buzzing in the trees on a warm summer night is a reminder of their presence. When they molt, their exoskeleton is often attached to tree trunks and very easy to pick off and examine.



### ACTIVITY #15

Print off copies of the coloring pages and have them color and label them.

### ACTIVITY #16

Which insects do you like the best? Taking the best qualities of all the insects, create your own "super" insect. What would you call it? Draw a picture of your creation and color it!

# Lesson I: Aquatic Wildlife



## Objectives:

- Students will learn about the wildlife found in the streams and ponds in the preserve.
- Students will learn about the importance of clean water to aquatic life. They will conduct water sample tests to determine the quality of local water sources.

## Materials:

\_\_\_Pond and Stream Safari Guidebook

## Curriculum Standards:

### Life Science

B1- the student will develop knowledge of organisms in their environment.

B2 - the student will observe and illustrate the life cycles of various organisms.

### Physical Science

B3 - the student will recognize and demonstrate what makes sounds.

### Science in Personal and Environmental Perspectives.

B2 - the student will demonstrate an awareness of changes in the environment.



Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve contains hundreds of natural springs. Water from these springs runs through natural drainages, providing water for wildlife throughout the watershed. There are also 26 man-made ponds, built by the ranchers to hold water for the cattle. These ponds are filled with water flowing from the springs. The ponds also serve as a water source for wildlife, and are home to many aquatic species. About one-fourth of the springs run year-round, the rest are seasonal and will stop running sometime in the fall or winter.

Over the years, the ranchers stocked the ponds with fish. Some of the streams contain native fish, like the channel catfish, green sunfish, bluegill, spotted bass, largemouth bass, and the Topeka shiner, which is listed on both the Kansas and the federal endangered species list.



*bluegill*



*Topeka shiner*



*channel catfish*



*largemouth bass*



vocabulary  
counts

*pristine*

Streams are also great places to experience aquatic wildlife. Insect populations vary with the seasons and water quality. These insects are called Benthic Macroinvertebrates. Benthic means “bottom-dwelling” or “under”. Macro means “small, but visible to the naked eye.” Invertebrate means “an animal without a backbone.” While some macroinvertebrates can tolerate a lot of pollution, others can only live in *pristine*, or very clean, water.

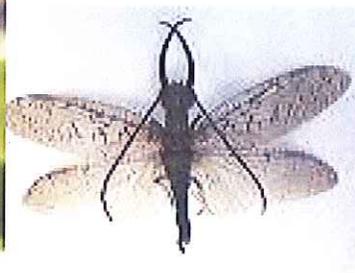


*caddisfly*

They are listed in groups, or “classes” according to their pollution tolerance levels. Class I species prefer the cleanest water, and includes the Mayfly, Dobsonfly (also called hellgramite), and Caddisfly.



*mayfly*



*dobsonfly*

Class 2 invertebrates can tolerate a little bit of pollution and include the Crayfish, Damselfly, Dragonfly, and Mussels.



*dragonfly*



*damselfly*



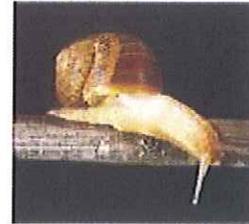
*crayfish*



Class 3 invertebrates can tolerate the most pollution and can be found in any quality of water. This class includes leeches and snails. These species are typically found in farm ponds and run-off areas like ditches and low-lying areas.



*leech*



*snail*

### ACTIVITY #17

Using the Pond and Stream Safari guidebook, take a trip to a local wetland and try to find aquatic invertebrates. Have the class divide up into teams and fill out the worksheets for the species they find.

*Remind the students to return the specimens unharmed to the wetland/stream when they leave.*



## ACTIVITY #18

Play Animal Trackers card game. For this game you will need the Animal Trackers Game Cards , Wildlife Sounds CD, and rubber scats.

This game will allow the student to use all of the new material they've learned from the previous activities. The objective of the game is to identify animals from the questions, pictures, tracks, scats, and also sounds of the animals covered in the trunk. The team with the most cards at the end of the game is the winner. Teacher will collect all of the cards at the completion of the game.

### To set up the game:

- 1) Divide the class into teams of 3-4 students each and let them choose a team name from one of the animals in this trunk. They should also choose a spokesperson for the group.

During the game, when trying to identify the animal, they should work as a team to come up with one answer. To keep the game moving, it's recommended that the teacher set a time limit of 25-30 seconds for teams to decide on their answer.

- 2) Shuffle the cards and place face down on the table. The clues are on the bottom and will be shown or read to the students. The answers are on the top side of the card for the teacher to see and should be far enough away so the students can't see the answers. Only teacher will handle the cards.

### To begin play:

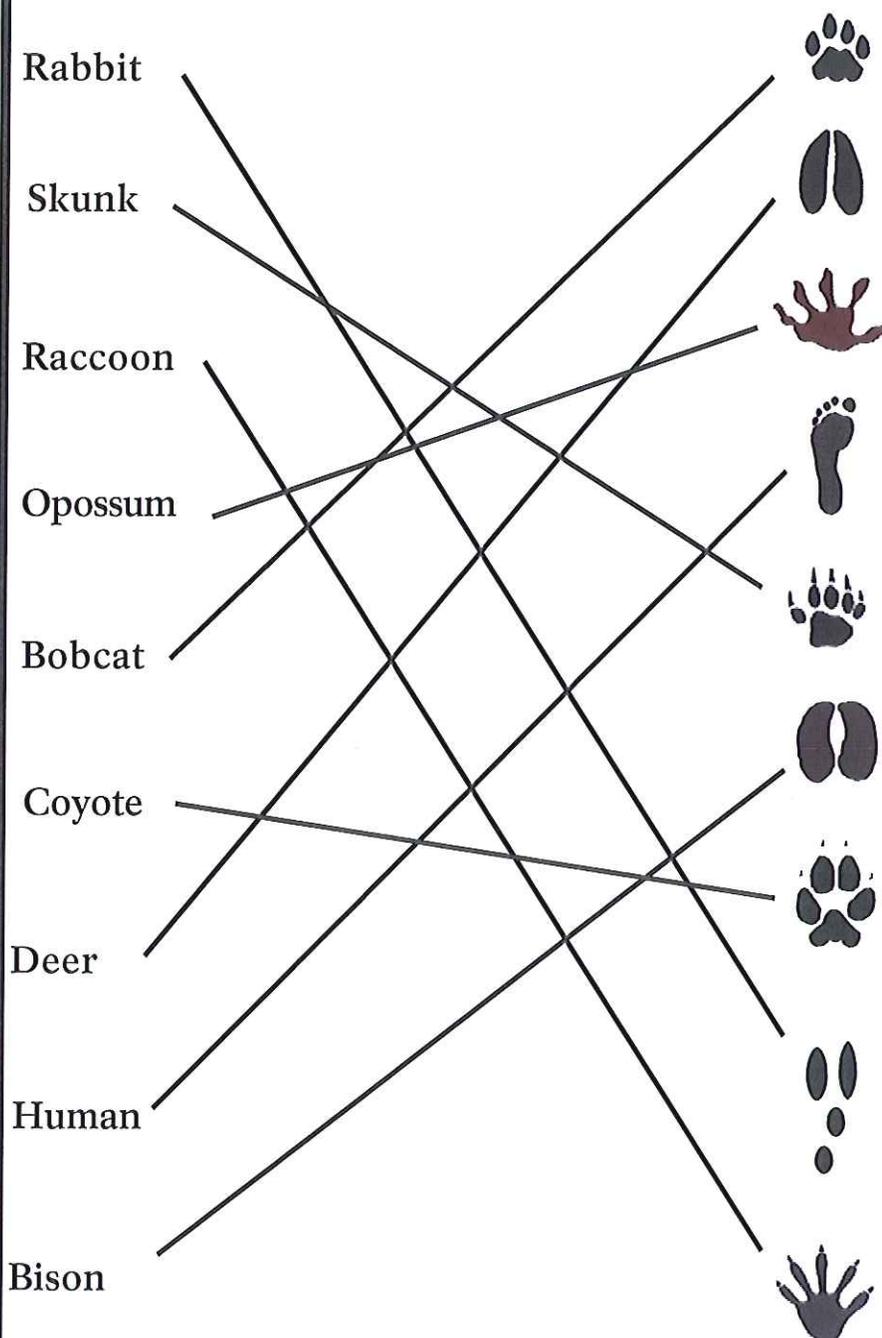
Teacher picks up the top card and gives that clue to the first team, which then tries to identify the animal. If answered correctly, they are awarded that card, and play moves to the next team for the next card. If answered incorrectly, the next team gets a chance to answer, and so on. If all teams answer incorrectly, the answer is given and that card is placed at the bottom of the deck and may come around again later in the game.

**note:** *when playing the CD tracks for clues, be sure to lower the volume at the beginning of the track, since the name of the animal is mentioned at the start.*



## Track Match (answer key)

Draw a line connecting the animal with the track that it makes.





## Small Mammal Scramble

(answer key)

RPAEIRI LVEO      prairie vole

TOKECP GPHREO      pocket gopher

LCIOATNOTT TBIRAB      cottontail rabbit

DOWO TAR      wood rat

DRAGEB      badger

SLERIRUQ      squirrel

DSETRPI NUSKK      striped skunk

NOARCOG      raccoon

MOPUSOS      opossum

REDE EOMUS      deer mouse

TUSRAMK      muskrat

CTBAOB      bobcat



# TALLGRASS WILDLIFE



REDTAILED HAWK  
 MEADOWLARK  
 WESTERN CHORUS FROG  
 COYOTE  
 WOODRAT  
 CICADA  
 MONARCH BUTTERFLY  
 TOPEKA SHINER  
 BOBCAT

REDBELLIED WOODPECKER  
 RAT SNAKE  
 ORNATE BOX TURTLE  
 BISON  
 BADGER  
 LIGHTNING BUG  
 OPOSSUM  
 BULLFROG  
 JACKRABBIT

GREATER PRAIRIE CHICKEN  
 COLLARED LIZARD  
 GREAT PLAINS SKINK  
 RACCOON  
 WHITETAILED DEER  
 LUBBER  
 RATTLESNAKE  
 RED FOX  
 SKUNK

# Post-Trunk Activities

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1. Conduct the trail walk on page 17 again to see if their observation skills have improved. This time, in addition to the objects you place along the trail, use a rubber scat and a rubber track model to make a track in the dirt. Deer tracks are recommended since they are more easily seen than dog or cat tracks. Compare these scores to the previous trail walk.
2. Plan a class field trip to a local park where students can gain more experience looking for sign, and/or observing wildlife.
3. Contact a local park or natural area and invite a speaker to visit your class and talk about wildlife observation opportunities in your area.
4. Contact your local or state park aquatic education program to see if there is an "Adopt-a-Stream" program in your area.

# References and Additional Resources

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*A Pocket Guide to Common Kansas Mammals*, Great Plains Nature Center

*The Bison and the Great Plains*, David Taylor, Crabtree Publishing Co., 1990

*Bison*, Scott Wrobel, Smart Apple Media, 1980

*Watching Kansas Wildlife, A Guide to 101 Sites*, Bob Gress and George Potts, University Press of Kansas, 1993

*Tom Brown's Field Guide to Nature Observation and Tracking*, Tom Brown Jr., Berkley Publishing Group, 1983

*Animal Tracks and Signs of North America*, Richard P. Smith, Stackpole Books, 1982

*Guide to Animal Tracking and Behavior*, Donald and Lillian Stokes, Little, Brown, and Company, 1986

*Sharing the Joy of Nature*, Joseph Cornell, Dawn Publications, 1989

## Related websites:

[www.naturalkansas.org](http://www.naturalkansas.org)

[www.nps.gov/yell](http://www.nps.gov/yell)

[www.kidsplanet.org](http://www.kidsplanet.org)

[www.monarch-butterfly.com](http://www.monarch-butterfly.com)

# INVENTORY

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Please take the time to check all of the items in the trunk before and after use. If anything is missing or damaged, please contact us immediately.

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- Activity notebook, including cd w/ pdf file
- A Guide to Wildlife Sounds w/ audio cd
- DVD...Eyewitness Amphibians
- DVD...Eyewitness Insect
- Book... "Coyotes"
- Book... "Everything Reptile"
- Book... "The Raft"
- Book... "Spot the Differences"
- Pocket Guide to Kansas Mammals (3)
- Pocket Guide to Kansas Snakes (3)
- Pocket Guide to Kansas Threatened and Endangered Species (3)
- Pocket Guide to Kansas Raptors (3)
- Booklet... "Return of the Bison"
- Activity Booklet...American Bison
- Pond and Stream Safari
- Rubber tracks (4)
- Rubber scat (4)
- What Am I ? game signs (23)
- Animal Trackers game cards (55)
- Animal coloring pages
- Predator/Prey Puppet show kit
- Bison hair

Observation trail bag:

- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| feather      | twine        |
| mussel shell | marble       |
| nest         | skull        |
| snake        | bison hair   |
| scat         | dragonfly    |
| mouse        | turtle shell |
| butterfly    |              |