



Crafty Kids Program

Lesson 2: Kit Kites

Kids will learn how these members of the dog family survive the heat with their soft light fur and bushy tails. We will explore the differences between coyotes, wolves, and foxes and learn how they all coexist in the Chihuahuan desert, especially here at White Sands! Play a game of “Coyote or Kit Fox” to have the kids guess which clue belongs to which animal. Kids can then color their own Kit Fox on their kites.

Materials needed:

- Brightly colored 8 1/2” by 11” multipurpose printing paper
- 8” bamboo bar-b-que sticks
- 1 roll of 1/2” masking tape or any type of plastic tape
- 1 roll of string (4 - 5 feet of string per child)
- Colored thick ribbon (for tail)
- 1” X 3” cardboard rectangle (to wind the string)

Directions for kite:

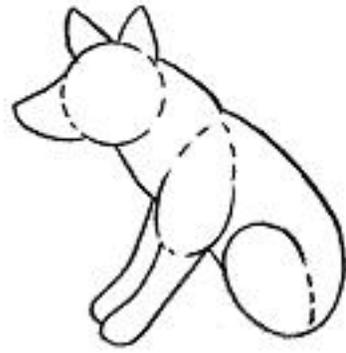
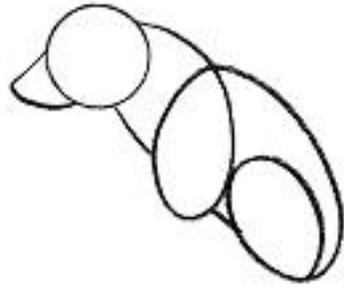
1. Fold paper in half (width wise or hamburger style)
2. Rotate 90 degrees and fold paper diagonally
3. Flip over and tape the spine
4. Tape the cross perpendicular to the spine
5. Tape the tail to the bottom of the kite
6. Flip kite over and fold spine back and forth
7. Punch hole in the spine opposite the cross bar
8. Tie string through hole and fly!

Directions for clue cards:

1. Print two sided (flip over) for page 3 and 4 below.
2. Cut along the dotted lines to create the clue cards.

Directions for drawing Kit Fox:

1. On page 2 below is an example of how to draw a kit fox. You can print it out and trace or find other patterns online.



Clue: I weigh 45 lbs.

Clue: I live for 10 years.

Clue: I live in the US, Mexico,
and Canada.

Clue: I love to sneak around
human habitation like farms
and campgrounds.

Clue: I have fur on the
bottom of my feet.

Clue: My scientific name is
Canis latrans meaning
barking dog.

Clue: I live in burrows made
inside pedestals.

Clue: I dig several holes
(entrances) into my home.

Answer: Coyote. Kit Foxes usually live for 5 years.

Answer: Coyote. Kit Foxes are only 3-6 lbs (the size of a house cat)

Answer: Coyote. Kit Foxes homes are restricted by human influence.

Answer: Coyote. Kit Foxes live in the southwestern US and Mexico.

Answer: Coyote. Kit Fox are *Vulpes macrotis* meaning "large ears".

Answer: Kit Fox. The fur helps for traction on loose, sandy soils.

Answer: Kit Fox. Coyotes don't dig!

Answer: Kit Fox. Coyotes will steal dens made by other diggers.