



Winter Animals

Fur Experiment

Some animals make adaptations to survive during the winter. They can't put coats on like we do. For example, a fox grows extra fur. The following experiment will show how fur helps animals to stay warm. How does fur help animals?

- Glue the cotton batting around one of the soup cans. The cotton batting will represent fur. Wait for the glue to dry.
- Fill both cans with hot water. The can with cotton batting represents fur.
- Place a thermometer in both cans and record the temperature of the water on the *How Does Fur Help Animals?* recording sheet. Record the temperature in the cans every 10 minutes for 30 minutes. What did you discover?

Mountain Caribou Research

www.wildsight.ca

Research mountain caribou populations in the Columbia Basin region to show students they 'care about the 'bou'.

Caribou need large areas of old growth forests as they survive by floating on the snow surface eating the abundant arboreal lichens up high in the tree. They will scatter if food is too scarce. Caribou females and young over-winter together while the bulls separate from the herd. If the population of females and young is small, they have less protection from predators namely wolves. Caribou are very sensitive to motorized vehicles and can expend unnecessary energy to run away from these machines, which also pack down tracks making it easier for predators to hunt down caribou.

Free Downloads

Animals in Winter- Powerpoint/Word Wall/Sorting Matt/Picture Cards

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Animals-In-the-Winter-Powerpoint-Word-Wall-Sorting-Mat-and-Picture-Cards-447077>

Animals in Winter – Reader/Sorting

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Animals-in-Winter-A-Mini-Unit-498027>

Animals that Hibernate, Migrate, Adapt- Picture Sorting Game

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Hibernate-Adapt-Migrate-Game-207995>

Hibernating Animals- Cut and Paste foldable reader

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Hibernation-Foldable-Reader-FREEBIE-Super-easy-to-use-For-K-1-396700>

Animal Adaptation- Fill in the Blank, Illustrations

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Free-Sample-All-About-Winter-1028933>

Videos

Beaver Adaptation

<http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/kids/animals-pets-kids/mammals-kids/beaver-kids/>

Caribou Adaptation

<http://animal.discovery.com/tv-shows/animal-planet-presents/videos/natural-world-caribou-winter-survival-strategies.htm>

<http://animal.discovery.com/tv-shows/animal-planet-presents/videos/natural-world-caribou-environment.htm>

Fox Hunting- Diving Headfirst into Snow

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2SoGHFM18I>

Using Our 5 Senses

Free Downloads

I Sense Wonder- Writing and Illustrating Booklet

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/I-Sense-Winter-FREEBIE-5-Senses-Activity-525553>

Snow Senses- Snowflake Booklet

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Snow-Senses-writing-descriptively-using-all-five-senses-195039>

Winter Nature Walk- Worksheet

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Winter-Nature-Walk-FREEBIE-949752>

Snowflakes & Snow Science

Winter Weather Watch Station

Record daily temperatures and snow fall using a snow gauge. Designate a snow plot, where the snow will not likely be disturbed at your school for weekly readings. Weekly read snow pack temperatures

on surface, middle and ground. Describe the layers and their depth. As winter progresses every week take a look at the colour of the snow in the layers. Describe snowmelt dates. Keep the data from year to year for other classes to add their data to see if there are any trends occurring. Have students go to the Environment Canada website www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca to see the forecast for their community.

Cold Talk

Give each student some ice cubes in a container. They may feel the ice while discussing the questions of feeling the sensation of cold. How do you feel when you are cold? What feels cold when you touch it? When you feel cold, what can you do to feel warm? What do animals do when they feel cold? Would you rather feel hot or cold? Put your hand in a bucket of ice-cold water for as long as you can. Now put your hand inside a Ziploc bag with lard and place it in the water. How is it different and why?

Snow Job

Explores the physical states of water. Bring snow in from outside. What will happen to the snow? Encourage speculation. Why is snow melting? What is the temperature inside and outside? What happens when it goes back outside? Speculate. Do it and examine what happened. Observe.

Melt an Ice Cube Dice Game

<http://www.littlegiraffes.com/winter.html>

Make an Igloo in your Classroom

<http://www.littlegiraffes.com/igloo.html>

Snowflake Photography Website

<http://www.boredpanda.com/snowflake-macro-photography-diy-alexey-kljatov/>

Ice Watch. Participate in Ice Watch, monitoring the freeze and melt of water bodies in your community. www.naturewatch.ca/english/icewatch

Avalanches. Learn about avalanches at the Canadian Avalanche Association website www.avalanche.ca

Winter Plant Adaptations

Video-Winter Plant Adaptations

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j8a-FiWU6eA>