

# Animal Tracks Book-on-a-String

## Lesson

Wild animals leave tracks on the ground that we can identify.

## Method

The class makes book-on-a-string necklaces filled with pictures of wild animals and their tracks.

## Materials: Each student gets...

- One 2 in. x 4 in. piece of construction paper
- Three 2 in. x 4 in. pieces of white paper
- Stapler
- Hole punchers
- One section of the “Wildlife Tracks & Pictures” print-out
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pack of colored pencils, markers, or crayons
- Beads
- Section of string or yarn

## Preparatory Activity

Some of your students may not understand what animal tracks are and why it's neat to know how to identify them. Just like people leave footprints, animals leave tracks on the ground. Each animal's track is shaped differently. If you know what animal tracks look like, then you can tell what kinds of animals have passed by recently. Good places to find tracks are: on patches of bare dirt, trails, and dirt roads.

Your students may also not be familiar with the wild animals in our region. You can show them the “Wildlife & Habitat” Power Point to teach them a little bit about them. There is an outlined script you can review if you would like to teach a little bit about the animals' habits and unique qualities.

## Procedure

1. Things to do before class starts
  - a. Cut string into foot-long pieces.
  - b. Cut construction paper into 4 in. x 2 in. pieces.
  - c. Cut white paper into 4 in. x 2 in. pieces.
  - d. Make copies of the “Wildlife Tracks & Pictures” print-outs. Cut along the dotted lines.
2. Lay three pieces of white paper on one piece of construction paper.
3. Fold the stack of paper in half to make a book shape.
4. Un-fold the papers and staple along the crease in the middle. This is the book's spine.
5. Uses the hole-puncher to make a hole in the upper left hand corner of the book, next to the spine.
6. Glue the wildlife and track pictures onto the pages of the book. Put the pictures of the wild animal on the page next to the picture of its track. Hint: pictures of the animal's track and picture are next to each other on the “Wildlife Tracks & Pictures” print-out.
7. Thread the string or yarn through the hole in the book.
8. Optional: put beads on the string.
9. Tie the ends of the string together to make a necklace.
10. Label the pages in your book with the names of the animals.
11. Decorate the cover of your book.
12. Optional: Go on an excursion to a nearby field, especially if there is any exposed dirt, and see if you can find any tracks

