



WOLF DISCOVERY KIT

Teacher Page

TARGET AUDIENCE

Grades K-12

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Explore the world of wolves in your own classroom! The Wolf Discovery Kit provides resources for students to conduct inquiry-based learning. Using resources included in the kit, students will gain an interdisciplinary picture of the complex issues surrounding wolf survival and will be able to make informed decisions about their role in our ecosystem. The many books and videos spark investigative learning and challenge students of all levels to analyze complex information. Real artifacts, including a wolf pelt, radio collar, and deer antler, add a tactile component. Students have hands-on opportunities to examine and compare specimens such as wolf, coyote, and beaver skulls and much, much more ...

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

- Identify and describe wolf adaptations
- Compare and contrast wolf, coyote, and beaver skulls
- Use field guides to identify animals tracks and scat
- Explore wolf recovery and reintroduction
- Compare wolf populations in the Midwest, Southwest, Rocky Mountains, and the Arctic
- Plot radio telemetry data on maps and track wolf packs in Minnesota

NATIONAL STANDARDS TO WHICH THIS PROGRAM ALIGNS

NS.K-4.3 LIFE SCIENCE

As a result of activities, all students should develop understanding of

- The characteristics of organisms
- Life cycles of organisms
- Organisms and environments

NS.5-8.3 LIFE SCIENCE

As a result of their activities, all students should develop understanding

- Structure and function in living systems
- Regulation and behavior
- Populations and ecosystems
- Diversity and adaptations of organisms

NS.K-4.6 and NS.5-8.6 PERSONAL AND SOCIAL PERSPECTIVES

As a result of activities, all students should develop understanding of

- Types of natural resources
- Changes in environments
- Populations, resources, and environments

PROGRAM LENGTH

2 weeks

VOCABULARY

Species	Carnivore	Ecosystem
Subspecies	Omnivore	Habitat
Population	Predator	Socialization
Adaptation	Prey	Telemetry
Herbivore	Scavenger	Reintroduction

SUGGESTED PRE-PROGRAM PREPARATION

- Discussions of ecosystems, nature's cycles, and habitat needs before the program are very helpful but not required.
- Brainstorm together or visit www.wolf.org to develop student-generated questions.
- Explore the International Wolf Center's Gray Wolves, Gray Matter curriculum.

<https://wolf.org/programs/educator-resources-wolf-link/gray-wolves-gray-matter-2/gwgm-download/>

SUGGESTED POST-PROGRAM FOLLOW UP

- Sign up for a group visit to the center to learn about and see our wolves in person and/or join us for an outdoor field trip into wolf country.

<https://wolf.org/programs/groups/>

- Sign up for one of our Distance Learning Programs and take a virtual field trip to the International Wolf Center in Ely, Minnesota via two-way videoconferencing.

<https://wolf.org/programs/educator-resources-wolf-link/video-conferencing/>

- Use IWC Wolf Logs on the www.wolf.org website to visit our wolves and keep track of their behavior, growth and place in the pack.

<https://wolf.org/meet-our-wolves/>

- Visit our website to view the wolves live on our webcams:

<https://wolf.org/wolf-cams2/>

- Recommended reading for teachers interested in further environmental education:

Sharing Nature with Children by *Joseph Cornell*

Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder by *Richard Louv*