

Educators Guide
Getting Ready for Winter

Volume 13, Issue 2

Using *Wild Times* as a Reading in the Content Area

Wild Times presents an opportunity for students to be introduced to ecological concepts and to read scientific information. This issue focuses on the behavioral and physiological strategies and adaptations that enable wildlife to survive cold and snowy northern winters. Begin an exploration of this issue by working with the vocabulary that is presented. Students can define the words by reading the text of this issue. In addition, *Wild Times* gives students the opportunity to look for key words that are used in many science textbooks. One way to increase your students' ability to read science is to have them make an outline of the issue, or to write a summary paragraph after reading.

Vocabulary:

Migration
Insulation
Hibernation
Dormancy
Adaptation
Subnivean
Cache
Snowpack
Metabolism

Objectives:

1. Students will be able to define subnivean and describe a survival advantage for wildlife that spend the winter there.
2. Students will be able to state at least three bird adaptations that enable them to survive the winter.
3. Students will be able to explain one wildlife-related reason why it's important for snowmobilers and cross country skiers to stay on established trails.

Related Project WILD Activities:

Who Fits Here? Grades 5-8

What Bear Goes Where? Grades K-4

Below Zero is a supplementary education program created by the Canadian Wildlife Federation that focuses on the understanding of wildlife in frozen environments. Similar to Project WILD Below Zero activities are both interactive and inter-disciplinary, and target both formal and non-formal, K-12 students. If you are looking for ways to enhance your students' understanding of the winter environment and the many adaptations and strategies wildlife use to survive it, then you may want to take a Below Zero workshop offered by N.H. Fish and Game staff.

Visit www.wildnh.com/education/below-zero.html.