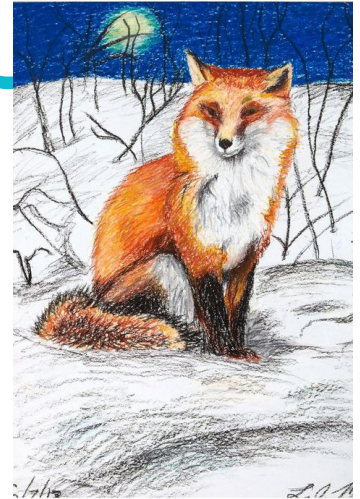


Nocturnal Animals

Explore Environments—Earth



RESPOND to how your nights differ from those of nocturnal animals. While many animals sleep during the night, including humans, squirrels, sheep, ducks, and other diurnal animals, nocturnal animals sleep during the day and are active at night hunting and caring for their young. For example, raccoons and bears might rummage through trash bins seeking tasty morsels, and coyotes hunt for prey under moonlight. Can you imagine what it would be like to be active during the night wandering the woods, scampering up and down your street, or tip-toeing through someone's garden?



CONNECT what you know about a particular type of nocturnal animal with their unique behaviors and habits. How are their bodies designed to help them be successful in their nighttime activity? Why is night vision important for nocturnal animals when they climb, hide, stalk prey, and pry things open?



CREATE a vignette that depicts the nocturnal activities of an animal. Use shading and layer colors to create a sense of nighttime mystery.



PRESENT your sketch to others. Get into character and act out your chosen animal's nocturnal behavior by crawling on all fours, making animal sounds to communicate, listening intently, and sniffing the air to determine who else may be nearby.