

Sharing Earth with Wildlife

Explore Environments—Earth



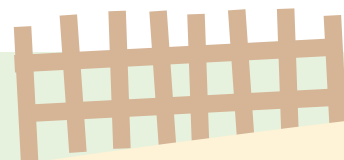
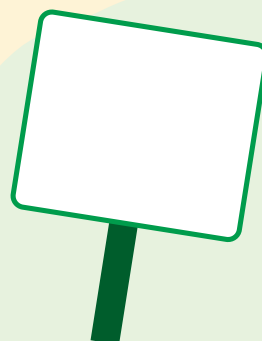
Justin B.



RESPOND to the need for wildlife and humans to coexist. Identify some places in your community where human and wildlife habitats intersect or are very near each other. Consider what the environment was like before people built homes and roads there. Research ways that city planners and civil engineers have intentionally designed ways to protect wildlife and their habitats, such as wildlife overpasses built over highways and elevated boardwalk trails for people to use in order to minimize the ecological impact. Where have you seen signs that remind people of behaviors that will protect them, their pets, and wildlife?



CREATE a shared ecosystem scene and some signs that contain important coexistence messages. Signs can be straightforward, such as "Don't feed the wildlife!" or "Stay on the path." Or they can use humor, such as "This path is protected by a hungry bear—don't leave crumbs!" Or "Stay on the boardwalk - unless you walk on 4 legs!"



PRESENT your scene and sign ideas during a presentation to your learning community where you discuss coexisting with wild animals.



CONNECT with the park service, local wildlife association, or other organizations to discover more ways to ensure that animals and people can safely coexist.