

Skin and Bones

Recommended for Grades 1-3

Program Length: 1-1/2 Hours

Location: Your Classroom

'Skin and Bones' teaches students how different Ohio animals are adapted for survival through examination of pelts, skulls and tracks.

Learner Outcomes

Students will:

1. Define the terms herbivore, carnivore and omnivore.
2. Give at least two examples of how an animal's teeth reveal clues about its diet.
3. Describe the functions of incisors, canines and molars.
4. Give an example of how the colors of an animal's coat help it survive.
5. Describe at least three styles of walking and give an example of an animal that moves each way.
6. Identify at least four animal tracks and where they are likely to be found.

Program Description

The program begins with a large group welcome and brief description of the national park and the Skin and Bones program. Students will then be broken up into smaller groups (10 to 15 students per group). Each group will then visit three different stations.

Skulls Station: Students will examine animal skulls from animals such as deer, coyotes, beavers, mice, voles and foxes. They will look at features of the skulls, including the eyes, ears, nose, mouth, teeth, and brain cavity to determine what the animals eat and when they are active.

Skins Station: Students explore skins from various animals such as beavers, red fox, white-tailed deer, raccoon, skunk and opossum. Students will learn information about each animal as they are examining the skins and how animals use their fur to keep themselves safe through camouflage, counter-shading and warning coloration.

Track Station: Students will look at an aerial view of an area of land with animal tracks throughout. They will identify the tracks and talk about the ways that different animals walk. Students will imitate different types of animal movements, such as galloping, bounding, perfect stepping and hopping. Finally, students will make their own track identification sheet with rubber animal tracks and an inkpad.

The program concludes with a large group share time where students will be able to share what they have learned.



**Cuyahoga Valley
National Park
Association**



**Cuyahoga Valley
National Park**

***The following Ohio Academic Content Standards will be addressed during
Skin and Bones***

Science Benchmarks:

K-2 Life Science

B. Explain how organisms function and interact with their physical environment

3-5 Life Science

B. Analyze plant and animal structures and functions needed for survival and describe the flow of energy through a system that all organisms use to survive.

Grade Level Indicators:

Grade 1

Life Science – Characteristics and Structure of Life

3. Explore that humans and other animals have body parts that help to seek, find and take in food when they are hungry (e.g., sharp teeth, flat teeth, good nose and sharp vision).

Grade 2

Life Science - Diversity and Interdependence of Life

6. Investigate the different structures of plants and animals that help them live in different environments (e.g., lungs, gills, leaves and roots)

Grade 3

Life Science – Diversity and Interdependence of Life

2. Relate animal structures to their specific survival functions (e.g., obtaining food, escaping or hiding from enemies).

