

Winter Blues

Recommended for Pre-K – Grade 1

Program Length: 90 Minutes

Location: Your Classroom

'Winter Blues' is an interactive puppet show that discusses how animals feel about winter and what changes will come with spring. It is followed by a series of hands-on activities for children to reinforce what they have learned.

Learner Outcomes

Students will:

1. Explain how winter differs from the other seasons.
2. Define migration and hibernation, and give one example of an animal that engages in each behavior.
3. Give examples of three animals that stay active in winter and describe the types of signs they leave behind.
4. Describe where beavers live and what they eat during the winter.
5. Create an interactive craft that shows a bird's seasonal patterns.
6. Compare human adaptations for winter with those of other active animals.

The overall goal of this program is to help young students understand seasonal change and the particular challenges that winter poses for animals. Through a short puppet show and series of interactive activities, students learn how winter challenges animals' abilities to survive and how some animals stay active, some sleep longer, some hibernate, and some migrate in order to survive the coldest season.

The puppet show is a group activity but afterward the children are divided into smaller groups to rotate through stations. They will learn how beavers have survived over the years and what they do to survive in the winter. They will learn about migration and how animals know when and where to travel. They will also learn about different ways animals that do not migrate survive, whether they stay active or hibernate.

Students return as a group to conclude the program by discussing and reviewing migration, hibernation, and action as strategies for surviving winter.



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***The following Ohio Academic Content Standards will be addressed during
Winter Blues***

Preschool

Life Science – Characteristics and Structure of Life

1. Begin to differentiate between real and pretend through stories, illustrations, play and other media (e.g., talking flowers or animals).

K – 1 Science Benchmarks:

Earth and Space Sciences

- D. Describe what resources are and recognize some are limited but can be extended through recycling or decreased use.

Life Science

- A. Discover that there are living things, non-living things and pretend things, and describe the basic needs of living things (organisms).
- B. Explain how organisms function and interact with their physical environment.

Grade Level Indicators:

Kindergarten

Life Science

2. Discover that stories (e.g., cartoons, movies, comics) sometimes give plants and animals characteristics they really do not have (e.g., talking flowers).
5. Investigate observable features of plants and animals that help them live in different kinds of places.
6. Investigate the habitats of many different kinds of local plants and animals and some of the ways in which animals depend on plants and each other in our community.

Grade 1

Life Science

1. Identify that resources are things that we get from the living (e.g., forests) and nonliving (e.g., minerals, water) environment and that resources are necessary to meet the needs and wants of a population.
1. Explore that organisms, including people, have basic needs which include air, water, food, living space and shelter.
3. Investigate that animals eat plants and/or other animals for food and may also use plants or other animals for shelter and nesting.
5. Recognize that seasonal changes can influence the health, survival or activities of organisms.

