
Nocturnal Animals

Reading Comprehension

Nocturnal Animals

Nocturnal animals are animals that are more active at night. Typically, nocturnal animals will sleep throughout the day. They will often live in dens, caves, or burrows so they are hidden from the Sun, the sounds, and predators. Many nocturnal animals live in the desert. These animals prefer to come out at night so they can avoid the extreme temperatures of the daytime.

Most nocturnal animals have special eyes that help them to see at night. Owls, cats, and lemurs all have eyes that see best at night. On the other hand, bats do not have very good eyesight. Instead, bats use sound as a way for them to find their way around objects. This is called echolocation.

Nocturnal animals that live close to residential and commercial areas have a difficult time. This is because these buildings have lights on all night to light up the surrounding areas. This can confuse nocturnal animals. For example, sea turtles in Florida lay their eggs on the beach at night. When the babies hatch at night and try to head for the ocean, they can be taken off course by the bright lights of nearby buildings. Scientists are studying this problem and are trying to find a solution.

Story Questions:

1. What is unique about nocturnal animals?
 - a. Nocturnal animals cannot smell.
 - b. Nocturnal animals cannot see.
 - c. Nocturnal animals are active at night instead of during the day.
 - d. Nocturnal animals are active during the day instead of at night.
2. Which paragraph explains what a nocturnal animal is?
 - a. the first paragraph
 - b. the second paragraph
 - c. the third paragraph
3. Which of the following statements explains echolocation?
 - a. Instead, bats use sound as a way for them to find their way around objects.
 - b. Nocturnal animals are animals that are more active at night.
 - c. This is because these buildings have lights on all night to light up the surrounding areas.
 - d. When the babies hatch at night and try to head for the ocean, they can be taken off course by the bright lights of nearby buildings.

Letter Writing

4. Research how “light pollution” in cities affects nocturnal animals. Then, **write** a letter to your city council outlining some possible solutions to help nocturnal animals in your community.

Math Worksheet

5. **Practise** [calculating greatest common factors](#). Remember that a prime factor is a whole number that only has two factors: one and itself. Use a [factor tree](#) to help if needed.

Word Problems

6. **Read** the word problems below and **write** the answers.
 - ★ Mandy and Gail were looking for a number with the greatest number of factors to use in a computer program. They choose the numbers 25, 36, 48, 64, 96, and 100. List all of the factors of each number. Which of these numbers has the greatest number of factors?
 - ★ Mandy and Gail wanted to find the greatest common factor of 80 and 120. List all of the factors for each number in the space to the right. What is the greatest common factor?

Fun Stuff!

7. **Discover** echolocation with this [game](#). Take some family members outside and see who would be the best bat!