

# WILDLIFE FACT or FICTION

## A Conservation Nation Academy Lesson

Please visit [www.conservationnation.org/lessons](http://www.conservationnation.org/lessons) for complete lesson materials including the lesson cards, slide deck, and vocabulary list.



### TIME REQUIRED

Flexible, from 10-30 minutes

### SUMMARY

Have some fun testing your students' knowledge about wildlife with this activity that can be adapted in numerous ways and can be played either in the classroom using our slide deck or outdoors on a field as a movement game.

### OBJECTIVES

- Students demonstrate what they know while also learning new facts about wildlife.
- Students distinguish between fact and fiction.
- Students become curious to learn more about wildlife and conservation.

### MATERIALS AVAILABLE AT [www.conservationnation.org/lessons](http://www.conservationnation.org/lessons)

- FOR PLAYING OUTSIDE: You will need one copy of the Wildlife Fact or Fiction cards and pre-select the ones that you want to use based on how much time you have and the number of questions that will keep your students' interest.
- FOR PLAYING INSIDE: You will need the Wildlife Fact or Fiction slide deck and pre-select the slides that you want to use based on how much time you have and the number of questions that will keep your students' interest. You can also print a set of fact or fiction signs for each pair of students that they can hold up to signal fact or fiction in response to the slides.
- Vocabulary list

### OTHER MATERIALS NEEDED

- For playing outside, students will need space to gather and move to the right or left. If desired, you can place cones to designate the boundaries of how far you want them to move and how much exercise you want them to get!

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR OUTDOOR MOVEMENT GAME

- Browse the Wildlife Fact or Fiction cards and preselect about 10-20 for one game. Choose a mix of fact and fiction statements and mix them up to make it fun for your students.
- To play, everyone should be standing in the middle of a space. Depending on how much the group wants to move, you can adjust the size of the space. One end of the space will represent fact, and the other end will represent fiction. You can also line students up in the middle of the space and place cones on either side to represent fact on one side and fiction on the other or have them take one step forward for fact and one step backward for fiction.
- Tell your students that you will be reading a statement, and they are to move in one direction if they think the statement is FACT (true) and the other direction if they think the statement is FICTION (false).



- This game is also fun if you have students work in pairs or small groups, where they must quickly agree on their answer and run in the same direction.
- Remember, this activity is meant to be a fun way to spark your students' curiosity about wildlife and challenge some common myths about wildlife, so be flexible and make it fun for them!

**TIPS:**

- ⇒ Having students work in pairs or small groups for this lesson takes away the pressure of standing out and "being wrong" in front of others.
- ⇒ Select a class judge to read the correct answer after some discussion.
- ⇒ If your students do not like being wrong, emphasize that it's okay to be wrong and these statements are supposed to be hard! Create a fun, playful atmosphere for this game.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SLIDE DECK VERSION IN CLASSROOM**

- Browse the Wildlife Fact or Fiction slide deck and preselect about 10-20 statements for one game. Choose a mix of fact and fiction statements and mix them up to make it fun for your students.
- Break students into pairs and give each pair a set of fact or fiction signs.
- Instruct each pair to hold up the corresponding fact or fiction sign depending on whether they think the statement is fact or fiction. They will have to work together to agree on which sign to hold up!

**TIPS:**

- ⇒ Rearrange the slides and use as few or as many as you would like to, depending on how much time you have.
- ⇒ Consider arranging the statements from easiest to hardest.
- ⇒ Give a countdown for students to answer the questions.

**REFLECTION**

Use the following questions for discussion or Think-Pair-Share:

- Which statement surprised you the most?
- What is something new you learned?
- How are myths about wildlife spread in popular culture?
- How would you find out if something you heard or read is true or not?

Have your students research and contribute their own fact or fiction statements!

We hope you enjoyed this lesson!  
Learn more about Conservation Nation at  
[www.conservationnation.org](http://www.conservationnation.org)

