



#3591

CLASSIC ANIMAL TRACKS

Grade Levels: 4-10

105 minutes

ENVIRONMENTAL MEDIA CORPORATION 1997

DESCRIPTION

Contains short features of the unique and rare behaviors of 29 familiar species with onscreen descriptions of their adaptations. Combines a classic rock song with wildlife photography in each two-minute segment.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Science

- ◆ Standard: Knows about the diversity and unity that characterize life
 - Benchmark: Knows different ways in which living things can be grouped (e.g., plants/animals; pets/nonpets; edible plants/nonedible plants) and purposes of different groupings
 - Benchmark: Knows that plants and animals progress through life cycles of birth, growth and development, reproduction, and death; the details of these life cycles are different for different organisms

Subject Area: Geography of Places and Regions

- ◆ Standard: Understands the concept of regions
 - Benchmark: Knows areas that can be classified as regions according to physical criteria (e.g., landform regions, soil regions, vegetation regions, climate regions, water basins) and human criteria (e.g., political regions, population regions, economic regions, language regions)
 - Benchmark: Understands how regions change over time and the consequences of these changes (e.g., changes in population size or ethnic composition; construction of a new shopping center, a regional hospital, or a new manufacturing plant; changes in transportation; changes in environmental conditions)

DURING SHOWING

1. View each segment twice, focusing on music lyrics one time and onscreen phrases the second time.
2. Provide inflated balloons to students to enable detection of the music rhythms through vibrations of the balloons' membrane. Visually represent the song rhythm by clapping, striking a drum, or desk to the beat.

3. Pause after each segment to explore the life of each animal profiled by discussing each phrase appearing onscreen.

a. **Emperor Penguin**

Winter on a Frozen Continent
A Month in Total Darkness
Surviving at Minus 60°
Huddling Together to Stay Alive
A Single Egg Laid on Ice
For the Female a Hundred Mile Trek
Flying Underwater for up to 18 Minutes
Six Weeks Later a Reunion
As Warm as Toast
In the Last Wilderness



Badger

b. **Blue Wildebeest**

A Million Years on the Serengeti
A Million Creatures on the Move
Irresistibly Driven to Migrate, A Yearly Pilgrimage of 2000 Miles
An Entire Population Crossing the Mara River
Moving South 12 Miles a Day
Grazing for 16 Hours a Day
Consuming 3 Million Tons of Grass
50,000 a Year Killed by Poachers

c. **Mute Swan**

A 30 Lb. Heavyweight with Angels' Wings
A Fearless Defender of Its Territory
Nurturing Six Obedient Youngsters
Sharing the Role of Parenthood
A Diet of Aquatic Plants
Together for Life
A Regal Beauty with Royal Protection
'I Will Play the Swan, and Die in Music' William Shakespeare



Buffalo

d. **Alligator**

In the Swamplands That Time Forgot
A Predator of Fearsome Cunning
Fifteen Feet of Armored Dinosaur
Victims Swallowed Whole
A New Life Draws a First Breath
A Mother Collects Her Children
Sweetly Cradled by 60 Deadly Teeth
Security is a Mum Like Mine
Hard to Imagine as Handbags and Shoes

e. **Meerkat**

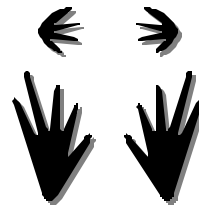
Another Late Morning in South Africa
Born in a Family Thirty Strong
Aloft, a Lookout
Digging Equipment Fitted as Standard
A Meal Bites Back
Eagle-eyed and Fleet of Foot
A Close Family at the Close of the Day
The Ultimate Team Takes a Time Out



Canadian goose



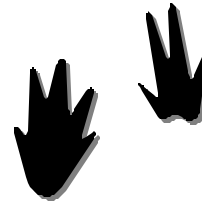
- f. **Tiger**
 Armed and Extremely Dangerous
 The Largest Cat in the World
 Camouflaged and Elusive
 Trespass at Your Peril
 A 400 Lb. Athlete with a 30 Foot Spring
 An Asian King in a Dwindling Kingdom
 Persecuted for Centuries
 Sacrificed for Oriental Medicine
 Will We See Another 'Year of the Tiger'?



Bullfrog

- g. **Ruby-Throated Hummingbird**
 O Beija Flor, the Flower Kisser
 The Tiniest Iridescent Jewel
 A Flower's Sweetness 300 Times a Day
 300 Times a Day a Flower's Pollinator
 A Specialized Tool for a Precision Task
 100 Flashing Wingbeats Every Second
 A Brace of Sword Swallowers
 A Frantic Heartbeat 20 Times a Second
 The Perfection of an Aerial Ballet

- h. **Wandering Albatross**
 A Watery Desert at the End of the World
 The Heaviest of All Sea Birds
 A Delicate Span of Twelve Feet
 A Monthly Voyage of 12,000 Miles
 A Lone Chick Waiting
 Winging Homeward With Food on Board
 Refueling With Four Pounds of Fish
 Rekindling a Lifelong Love Affair
 A Mystical Life of an Ancient Mariner



Armadillo

- i. **Army Ant**
 War on a Global Scale
 Deep in the Tropics Nature's Storm Troopers Are Stirring
 Blind Legions on the March
 A Million One-Inch Warriors
 Living Links in Living Chains
 There Is No Escape
 Victims Dismembered
 Natural Born Killers



Bobcat

- j. **Chimpanzee**
 A Secret Society Sixty Strong
 A Wide Vocabulary Both Visual and Verbal
 Hand Made Tools of the Trade
 Practice Makes Perfect the First Four Years Child's Play
 Cleanliness is Next to Godliness
 Masters of the Forest Floor
 Closer to Mankind Than to a Monkey
 Too Close for Comfort?



- k. **Red Kangaroo**
 Introducing Australia's National Symbol
 With a Leap of Thirty Feet
 The 180 Lb Heavyweight Marsupial
 A Counterbalance in the Tail
 Six Foot Fence? No Problem!
 Socializing in Mobs
 Top Speed 40 MPH
 Possibly in Your Next Can of Dog Food



Skunk

- l. **African Elephant**
 In the Stone Age Dust
 Site Clearance by the Largest Land Animal
 Five-Ton Juggernauts Hit the Road
 In This Family Grandma Is the Boss
 Weapons of Ivory Three Feet Long
 Blood Ties Thicker Than Water
 A Life Ahead of Sixty Years
 1980 One and a Quarter Million 1995 Just Six Hundred Thousand

- m. **Gray Squirrel**
 Say 'Hello' to a Notorious Robber
 An American Settler With Mischief in Mind
 With a Death Defying Twelve Foot Leap
 Making Provision for Hard Times Ahead
 A Tree-Top Home for Three Blind Babies
 A Brazen Eighteen Inch Burglar
 Quick as Lightning but a Thundering Nuisance?



Wild boar

- n. **Common Hippo**
 Louder Than a Rock Band
 Heavier Than a Rolls-Royce
 As Fast as a Sprinter
 Teeth Eighteen Inches Long
 As Long as Your Living Room
 An Only Child Suckled Underwater
 Skin Two Inches Thick
 Jaws That Can Crush a Crocodile
 The Only Enemy is Man

- o. **Frogs and Toads**
 The Magic Ingredient of a Witches' Brew
 Conjuring up a Strange Amphibian World
 A Waxy Coating of Water Proofer
 Brilliant Colors Warning of Danger
 One Ounce of Their Poison Could Kill 3 Million People
 A Throaty Call Heard a Mile Away
 A Unique Love Song to Attract a Mate
 A Physique Designed for Jumping
 A Flying Leap of Fifty Feet Health Warning: Licking Their Skin Can
Seriously Damage Your Health!



Great blue heron



p. **Vampire Bat**

The Sun Goes Down the Nightmare Begins
Twenty Scalpel-Sharp Teeth
Two-Inch Wings of Delicately Taut Skin
Homing in by Echo Location
One Painless Incision and Dinner is Served
Devoted and Vulnerable
Well Groomed and Sociable
Bringing Death to a Million Cattle a Year



Whitetail deer

q. **Elephant Seal**

A Cool Mud Bath for Sleeping Giants
Boys With a Nose for a Good Fight
A Three Ton Beach Master Kicks Off the Mating Game
Six Inches of Insulating Blubber
Females Relaxing in the Soothing Sand Proudly Suckling a 100 Lb Baby
A Spectacular Recovery From the Brink of Extinction

r. **Giraffe**

Taller Than a Double-Decker Bus
An Observation Post Eighteen Feet in the Air
A Thorn-Proof Tongue Twenty Inches Long
35 Miles Per Hour Across the Savannah
A One-Ton Mobile Crane An Eight-Foot Neck Can Be a Disadvantage
Competing for Africa with 600 Million People



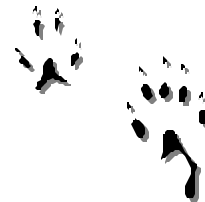
Zebra

s. **Barn Owl**

The Rural Scene of a Ghostly Visitation
A Deathly-White Specter Stealing Through the Night Upon an Unwitting Hapless Soul
As Silent as the Grave on a Three Foot Wingspan
Another Rodent Victim on the Menu
One of Seven Pure White Eggs Chiseled Open by a New Life
Targeting Prey in Total Darkness
Its Number One Enemy: Barn Conversions

t. **Brown Hare**

The Chase Is on in an Ancient Woodland
Pursued for Both Pot and Pleasure
Accelerating to 40 Miles an Hour
Helping Themselves to a Pound of Herbs a Day
Every Year Three Litters of Leverets an Enemy in Every Hedgerow
March Winds Herald a Summer of Madness
A Constant Companion of the Farmer
At the Mercy of Mechanization



Ground squirrel

u. **Macaw**

Wake Up to a Chattering Dawn Chorus
An Airborne Kaleidoscope in the Tropical Forest
Intelligent and Playful Gregarious and Temperamental
A Three-Foot Acrobat Comes to Dinner With Perfect Table Manners
A High-Rise Nursery for Two Beautiful Babies
A Tonic of Soothing Clay Melts Away the Misery of Indigestion
One Can Cost a Fortune Too Many Pay the Price



v. **Flamingo**

In Africa's Caustic Lakes a Phoenix Rises
A Reincarnation Over 30 Million Years
Fiery Plumage Tinted by Its Food
Synchronized Lakeside Ballet
A Flurry of Pink in Pursuit of Fresh Water
Elegance at Forty Miles Per Hour
A Lake Showered With a Million Gems
A Searing 60°C on a Twelve-Inch Mound
Above the Scalding Water the Birth of a Tiny Flame Bird



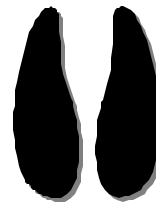
Artic fox

w. **Killer Whale**

Length 28 Feet Weight 8 Tons
A Pack of Hunters Cruising the World's Oceans
Communicating by Sonar
Targeting Squid, Fish, Birds and Seals
Audacious and Armed to the Teeth
Attack Speed 35 Miles Per Hour
Toying With Its Food Happier in the Real Sea World?

x. **Polar Bear**

In an Artic Wasteland at Minus 60°C
A Home Awoken by the First Spring Sun
Weeks Without Food and a Little Peckish
Venturing Outside at Two Months Old
A Fur Coat Four Inches Thick
A Twelve-Foot One-Ton Toboggan Snowshoes Twelve Inches Across
In the Arms of Mother for Two Years A Lifetime Trek of 100,000 Miles
Warm and Safe But Only 10,000 Left



Bighorn sheep

y. **Lion**

The Plains of Africa
A Well-Stocked Larder
A Hunting Ground 300 Miles Across
In This Neighborhood, This Is Mother's Pride A 400 Lb Powerhouse in Explosive Flight
Overpowering Prey Twice Its Size
Gorging on 100 Lbs of Meat
Sprinting at 60 Miles an Hour
The King of the Beasts Dethroned by Man

z. **Sea Otter**

Surf's Up on the Pacific Coast
Far Out in a Buoyant Fur Coat
A Life All at Sea
A Five-Foot Bathing Beauty
To Open Tonight's Menu Smash Shell Against Stone
Clams Never Tasted So Good!
Life Would be a Gas but for Oil Spills



Water rats



aa. **The Coral**

The Sea: The Final Frontier
The Domain of Alien Creatures
Thriving in the Shallows of Tropical Waters
Piercing Prey with Paralyzing Tentacles
The Next Generation Triggered by the Moon
Tiny Skeletons of Ancestors Reduced to Building Blocks
One Man’s Quarry is Another Man’s Treasure
A Vivid Palette Mixed Over 65 Million Years
The One Life Form Visible From Space

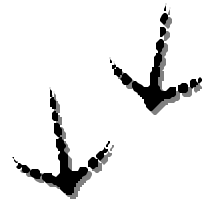


Fox



bb. **The Vulture**

Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner
Helping Themselves to Others’ Leftovers
This Mob Can Clock a Corpse at Thirty Miles
Reduced to a Skeleton in an Hour
Squabbling 25 Lb Scavengers
A Cliff Top Colony of Thousands
A Free Lift on a Carpet of Rising Air
Ugliness is in the Eye of the Beholder



Wild turkey

cc. **Red Deer (Elk)**

Season of Mists on the High Peaks
Carried on the Wind a Battle Cry
Picking a Fight Head to Head
Duelists Weighing 600 Lbs
Rapiers of Bone Unsheathed for the Fray
The Winner Takes All
The Prize of the Defending Champion
The Monarch of the Glen and Sport of Kings



Elephant

4. Discuss the song lyrics and rhythm and relate them to the animals’ characteristics and behavior. Discuss why the producer chose that piece of music for the animal profiled.



AFTER SHOWING

1. Discuss the government versus private sector roles in conservation, the economic costs and benefits of conservation, and applications of the Endangered Species Act.
2. Use the onscreen phrases as prompts for persuasive writing, essays and poetry.

RELATED RESOURCES

Captioned Media Program

- Adaptations of Animals (Second Edition) #2348
- Animal Migration #3210



World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid-safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **BBC ANIMALS**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/animals/>

A comprehensive variety of facts and fun. Animal "Features," "Postcards," and more. Inviting. Updated often.

- **ANIMALS**

<http://pittsford.monroe.edu/Schools/Jefferson/Animals/AnimalsFrame.html>

A clickable animals index. Facts, graphics, games, and more.

- **WETLAND LINKS**

http://www.glo.state.tx.us/res_mgmt/wetnet/links.html#Wetland

A huge array of links relating to wetlands, rivers and estuaries, and the mammals, birds, fish, and insects that thrive here.

- **OCEANS ALIVE**

<http://www.abc.net.au/oceans/alive.htm>

Offers oceans of fun! Easy navigation through fact-filled and inviting tutorials.

- **THE "LET'S FIND OUT" INDEX**

<http://www.letsfindout.com/subjects/>

Links from Knowledge Adventure on this index page. Try "Mammals," "Bugs," or "Undersea" clicks for related material.

- **ECO KIDS ONLINE**

<http://ecokids.earthday.ca/pub/splash.cfm>

A gallery for art, a storybook to review, a free screensaver and more. Themed animal and ecosystem adventures for elementary and upper elementary learners. Also contains an educator's page that changes often.