**Critter Characteristics & Habitats**

*Caution – Be careful not to harm any wildlife or their habitats.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name:  | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

Explore your outdoor classroom and look for an animal (wildlife). Complete the questions below to help you describe what type of animal it is and its habitat needs.

Use field identification guides like the National Audubon’s *Field Guide to the Southeastern States*, the
Alabama Wildlife Federation’s Wonders of Wildlife webpages, and the Outdoor Alabama’s Watchable Wildlife
 webpages to help you answer the questions, if needed.

1. **Draw a picture of the animal.**

1. **What color(s) is it?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 black blue brown gray green orange purple red yellow white

1. **How many legs does it have?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 zero two four six eight ten one hundred

1. **Estimate how long (or tall) it is: \_\_\_\_\_\_**feet **\_\_\_\_\_**inches

****

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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **5. Put a checkmark next to the feature(s) it has.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| * Fur
 | * Feathers
 | * Thin Wings
 | * Hard Covering
 |
| * Hard Shell
 | * lizard clipartScales
 | * Smooth Skin
 | * Bristles
 |

 |

**6. What type of animal did you find?**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| * bird
 | * reptile
 | * amphibian
 | * mammal
 | * insect
 | * http://static.abcteach.com/content_preview/e/earthworm_p.pngother invertebrate
 |

**7. What type of “babies” does it have?**

* Live baby (not in egg) that looks similar to parent *(typically a mammal)*
* Hard-shelled eggs with babies that look similar to parent *(typically a bird or reptile)*
* “Soft” tiny eggs in water with larvae that change (morph) into adult *(amphibian or insect)*
* “Soft” tiny eggs on plants or in soil with larvae that change (morph) into adult *(insect)*

**8. What is the name of this animal?**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**9. Where does this animal typically live?** *(you can choose more than one)*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| * grassland
 | * tundra
 | * desert
 | * woodland
 | * meadow
 | * wetland
 |
| * creek
 | * pond/lake
 | * river
 | * ocean
 | * other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
 |

**10. Where did you find it in the outdoor classroom?**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| * in the grass
 | * on the ground
 | * in the soil
 | * in a tree or bush
 | * in water

or a pond | * on a flower
 |

**11. Describe its habitat needs including the specific food, water, shelter and places to raise its young it needs to survive:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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