

# LESSON 17: ANIMAL PRINTS

## SUPPLIES

### PENCIL BOX

- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Markers

### MAIN BIN

- Ink Pads (10)
- Cotton balls (40)
- Popsicle Sticks (60)
- Wooden Beads (60)

### FOLDER

- Animal Prints Worksheet (20)
- Animal Prints Answer Key (1)
- Cardstock (20)

## OBJECTIVES

- Students will explore different animals foot prints
- Students will learn why different animals have different types of feet

## HOOK

🕒 3-5 min

Future animal detectives, today we are going to explore how animal prints help us solve nature's mysteries.

- What do you think we can learn by studying the tracks and prints animals leave behind?
- How do these prints help us figure out which animal was there and what it was doing?

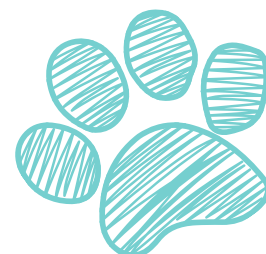
## INTRODUCTION:

🕒 5-10 mins

Imagine you're an animal detective, but instead of fingerprints, you're looking at animal feet and the prints they leave behind! Just like every person has unique fingerprints, each animal has feet shaped for what it needs to survive, and those feet leave special prints behind.

Some animals have wide paws with claws to help them dig or walk on snow, like bears or lynxes. Others have long toes to help them climb trees or balance on branches, like squirrels. Birds have different feet depending on whether they catch fish, perch on branches, or scratch the ground for food. Each foot shape helps the animal move, hunt, or stay safe in its own environment.

When we look at animal tracks, we can figure out which animal made them, where it was going, and even what it might have been doing. Wildlife scientists and trackers use these prints to learn about animal behavior, protect endangered species, and understand how animals live in the wild.



## DISCUSSION:

🕒 25-30 mins

Students will start by completing a matching activity. Give each student a piece from the animal track handout and have them walk around the room to find the classmate with the matching animal print. Once everyone has found their match, discuss the animals each pair has and the features of their tracks.

Explain to students that different animals leave different tracks, and these prints can tell us a lot about the animal, such as its size, type of feet, and how it moves.

After the matching activity, students will create their own animal prints.

## ACTIVITY:

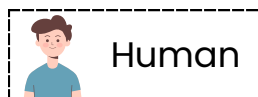
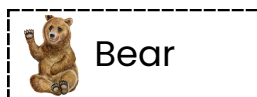
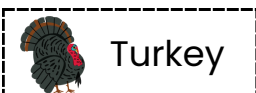
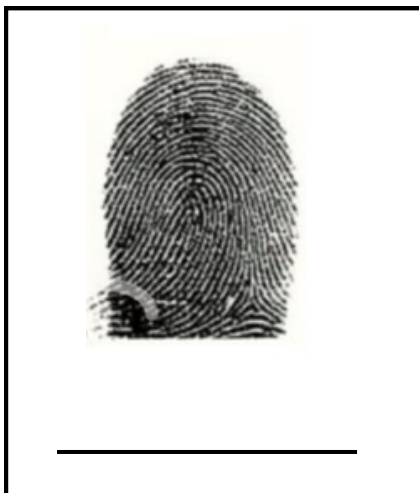
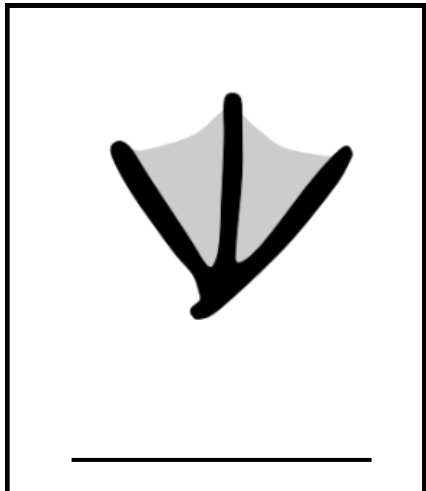
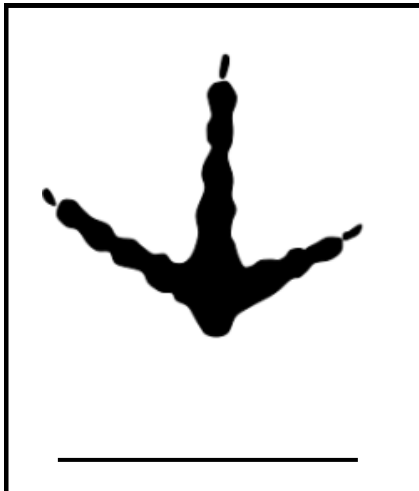
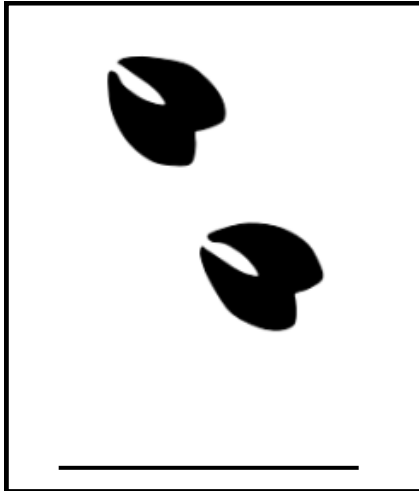
1. Allow each student to choose what animal print they would like to make, and hand out the handouts
2. Give each table an assortment of materials such as markers, beads, popsicle sticks, cotton balls and glue
3. Help the students come up with ideas for making their animal prints. Give examples like, "Maybe your animal has really long toes made out of popsicle sticks," or "Maybe your animal has really hairy feet you can make with cotton balls." Encourage them to think about what makes their animal unique and use different materials to show those special features in their prints.
4. One the students are finished take some time to allow each student to talk about there print and why they chose those items.

## MOVEMENT BREAK

For a quick game, have the students act out different animals. You can have everyone cross the room moving like a cat, bear, lion, chicken, or other animals. You could also split them into groups and have each group act out a different animal together.



Cut out the names and find the matching fingerprint.  
Before you glue, make sure everything matches up correctly!



# Animal Images



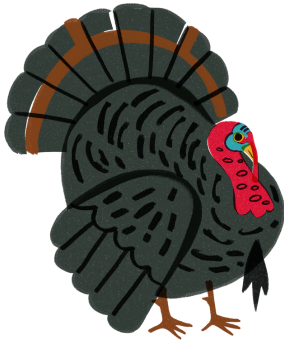
Deer



Coyote



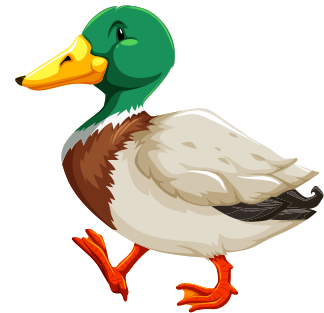
Porcupine



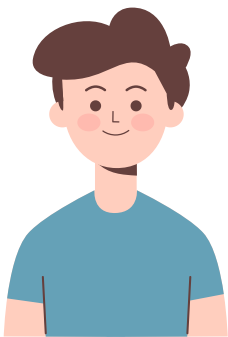
Turkey



Koala



Duck



Human



Rabbit



Bear

# ANSWER KEY

