

For Creative Minds

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Photocopy or download the following pages from the **In My Backyard** homepage at www.ArbordalePublishing.com onto heavy or regular paper. If using as a memory game, make two copies. Cut each page into cards and have the children put into numerical order. Please do not write in or cut the book.



1

Deer have an excellent sense of smell as well as good hearing and eyesight.



2

Porcupine pups are born with soft quills that become hard within an hour.



3

Squirrels gather and bury nuts for winter. If the nuts are not eaten, they may grow into trees!



4

Raccoons are excellent climbers and can climb down a tree head first.



5

Rabbits “talk” to each other through smell and touch.



6

Moles have bad eyesight, but they can hear insects from a distance and have a good sense of smell.



7

Skunks are only born in the spring. The kits are almost blind and don't have fur.



8

Snakes that are born alive are called snakelets. If they come from eggs, they are called hatchlings. They smell by flicking their tongues in and out.



9

Foxes are good tree climbers. Many are good swimmers and can run up to twenty miles per hour.



10

Grasshopper nymphs look like little adult grasshoppers without wings.

1

a fawn is a
baby deer



2

pups are baby
porcupines



3

pups are
baby squirrels



4

cubs are
baby raccoons



5

bunnies are
baby rabbits



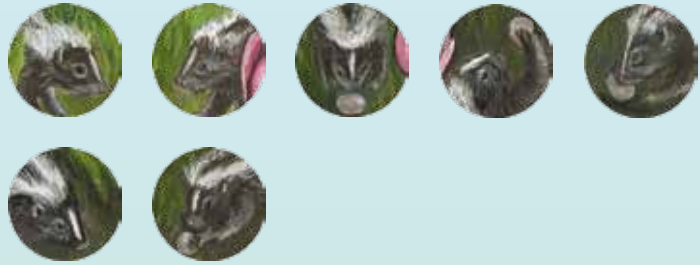
6

pups are
baby moles



7

kits are
baby skunks



8

hatchlings are
baby snakes



9

pups are
baby foxes



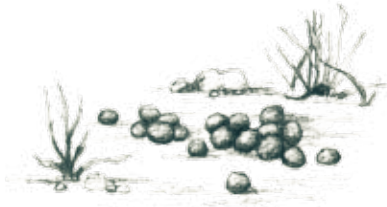
10

nymphs
are baby
grasshoppers



Animal Signs All Around You

Animals leave “signs” that show they were there. Find a nature spot: your backyard, a park, or a nature center. See how many “animal signs” you can find. Here are just a few:



scat (poop)



pieces of homes
(bird nests, spider webs, etc.)



broken or chewed
plants



chewed pinecones,
nuts or tree bark



tracks



feathers, shells, or
bones

Caring For Wildlife Around You

Some or all of the animals mentioned in this book may live or pass through your yard, even if you never see them! What can you do to protect wild animals?

- Keep pets inside.
- Please pick up your trash—especially plastic. Wild animals may eat the trash and get sick.
- Don't touch any wild animals; they are just that—wild!
- Don't try to keep them or to make them pets.
- Feed and watch birds but don't feed other wild animals.



What to Do If You Find an Injured Animal

Wildlife rehabilitators are people who care for injured wild animals and nurse them back to health. It is always a good idea to look up and find a wildlife rehabilitator in your area before you need one! Check online, look in the phone book, or ask a veterinarian.

If the animal is alert and big enough to harm you, call the wildlife rehabilitator or your local animal control. Let professionals help the animal.

If the animal is small, of no danger to you, and looks like it may be nursed back to health, try to get it to a rehabilitator:

- Wear gloves or wrap the animal in a towel so that you don't touch it. Remember that the animal, if conscious, will be scared and may try to claw or bite. An unconscious animal could wake up any time.
- If it is cold, place a heating pad on low or a ziplock bag of very warm water in part of a box (so the animal can move away from the heat if necessary) and put a towel or blanket on top of the heat source. Place the injured animal on top of the warm side, on top of the towel or blanket.
- Tightly cover the box, but please make sure that there are ventilation holes for the animal to breathe.
- Do NOT try to feed the animal.
- If you think an animal is orphaned, leave it alone until you are positive that the mother is not returning. It is normal for animal parents to leave to get food, sometimes for several hours or even all day. If, however, you know that the mother is dead, call a wildlife rehabilitator or wildlife expert to get the animal.

