

Create a Wetland World with Paper Animals



- Before you begin: Make sure you have everything you need - scissors, a glue stick, a print-off of the paper model, the instructions, and a place to work. And, of course, your parent's or teacher's permission to go ahead!
- If you have received a print copy of the animal model that you want to save, you can do this. Simply download any of the animal models from our website at education.ducks.ca along with the instructions.
- Do you like to colour? There are black and white versions of these models that you can print off from our website at education.ducks.ca.
- Read the instructions before you begin and look at the pictures closely. It will help you understand how the pieces work, where you need to fold and where you need to glue.
- Cut the pieces out carefully. If you make a mistake, try taping the piece back on. But, if you really need to, you can easily print off another copy of the model.



Project and Study Ideas for the whole class!

Don't just do what's written down - let your imagination be your guide.

- Exploring another country? Include a map so people know where it is.
- Creating a wetland animal model or food chain? Research the animal and write your own nature notes.
- Have a great project idea yourself? Send it to us. If you have a picture or photo we would love to see it! You can email it to project_webfoot@ducks.ca.



1. Make a number of models and use them to create a "wetland mobile".
2. Use the models to create a food chain for a Canadian wetland. But then explore a wetland in another part of the world and research the animals that live there. Create a food chain poster or mobile using your own drawings or pictures from old magazines.



3. Feeling extra creative? Use these models as a starting point to design your own paper models for animals from another habitat, like a forest, or from a wetland in another part of the world. For example, look at the body and legs of the Yellow-spotted Salamander model and compare them to a picture of an alligator or crocodile. Could you design your own alligator model using the design ideas for the salamander? You could do the same with some of the other animal models.
4. Many cultures have sayings about animals and the weather. For example, in the wintry parts of the northern United States and Canada, people wait to hear the predictions about winter from a furry mammal, called a groundhog or woodchuck. It is said that if the groundhog sees his shadow when he comes out of his underground burrow on the morning of February 2nd, Groundhog Day, there will be six more weeks of winter. Otherwise it will be an early spring. Look at the story that accompanies the dragonfly model from "Wetlands and the World" for another way of forecasting weather. (P.S. February 2nd is also "World Wetlands Day". Visit www.ramsar.org to find out more.)

Do you know other wildlife weather beliefs? Ask your families and friends if they know a story you can share with your classmates. You could:

- write the story in your own words and read it out loud to others
 - create a picture storybook to share with younger students
 - choose a saying or belief and explore it further to find out whether it is closer to fact or fiction.
5. Dances, martial arts and yoga all have movements based on animals. For example, for thousands of years people all over the world have performed "crane dances" and many kinds of martial arts and yoga have similar stances (standing positions) based on animals. For example, the "cat stance" is one in which a person stands like a cat ready to pounce.
 - Explore birds like the crane, grebes, loons and others who dance (usually a way of attracting a mate). You may even find samples on the Internet. Do a project on dances from around the world based on animals. You may want to explore costumes as well.
 - Find out if anyone in your class studies dance or martial arts. Have they learned any movements that are based on animals? Do you have ideas why these different animals were chosen?
 - Do you and your friends like to dance? Could you create your own dance to tell the story of a wetland?
 6. People from different cultures see animals in different ways. For example, owls are found around the world and may be seen as wise, foolish, or as an evil omen or a symbol of death. Why do you think people would see animals in different ways? Explore the "natural history" of an animal (the natural history means where they live, what they eat and so on) or look for stories or legends about them for some ideas.
 7. A Big Idea - Work with your friends and classmates to create a giant wetland art and science project to share with other classes in your school.
 8. Take Action! The last exercise in the "Wetlands and the World - Resources for Teaching English Literacy" contains action ideas for students studying English but many of these are fun for everyone. You can also check our website at education.ducks.ca for more project and action ideas.

