

STEAM On! Create a Creature

There's no place like home! And that home. And that home...



SCAN ME

Learn about habitats and how animals adapt to them! Watch Miss Marissa read stories, share facts, and model the activities in this kit by scanning the QR code or viewing the video on Facebook or YouTube.

How to scan a QR code: open your camera, point the camera at the QR code, click the popup notification

READ: Books About Habitats

Amazing Animal Homes

By Chris Packham and Jason Cockcroft

Beehive by Jorey Hurley

Creature Features: 25 Animals Explain Why They

Look the Way They Do by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page

Listen to Our World by Bill Martin Jr. and Michael Sampson

Lots of Spots by Lois Ehlert

My Very First Book of Animal Homes by Eric Carle

Over and Under the Pond

By Kate Messner and Christopher Silas Neal

A Place to Start a Family: Poems About Creatures That Build

By David L. Harrison and Giles Laroche

Step Inside!: A Look Inside Animal Homes

by Catherine Ham

Through the Animal Kingdom: Discover Amazing Animals and Their Remarkable Homes

by Derek Harvey and Charlotte Pepper

Walk on the Wild Side by Nicholas Oldland

Waiting for Wings by Lois Ehlert

Welcome Home Bear by Il Sung Na

We Build Our Homes: Small Stories of Incredible

Animal Architects by Laura Knowles and Chris Madden

Place these books on hold at www.library.thegdl.org

ACTIVITY: What's a Habitat? Book

Customize your habitat book by coloring, drawing, and labeling the pages in the printout, "What's a Habitat?"

ACTIVITY: Animal Cracker Habitats

Decide which habitat each animal cracker belongs to, draw their habitats, and then sort the crackers into the habitats you drew! Or just talk about which habitat each animal belongs to as you eat them!

Use the animal cracker guide to identify each animal.

RESOURCES: Extension Activities

"Animal Habitats" video from Learning Junction: <https://bit.ly/3cnuDtc>

Short habitat videos from PBS Learning Media: <https://bit.ly/2WJ2FkU>

Habitat games from the Smithsonian: <https://ssec.si.edu/habitats>

Habitat science from Home Science Tools: <https://bit.ly/2zAv7NX>

READING CHALLENGE

Log your reading and activities online at the www.thegdl.org/beanstack

ACTIVITY: Create a Creature

Your Challenge: Create a brand new animal that would live in a particular habitat. Choose any habitat you'd like! Create your animal using your homemade playdough (or you can use other craft supplies). Describe what makes your new animal perfectly suited to its habitat.

Playdough Ingredients:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup fine table salt
- 1 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 1/2 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup boiling water
- Food coloring (optional)



Instructions:

1. In a bowl, mix together flour, salt, and cream of tartar.
2. Make a well in the center of the bowl and add vegetable oil, boiling water and food coloring.
3. Using a rubber spatula, stir until a dough forms, add a little bit more flour if needed. (add more food coloring if desired)
4. When the dough is cool enough to touch, use your hands to further incorporate the flour and knead until all flour is incorporated and dough is soft and uniform in color.
5. Let playdough cool completely before playing with it.
6. Store the playdough in a sandwich bag and place the sandwich bags in an air-tight food storage container. Store room temperature, no need to refrigerate.