

# STEM ADVENTURE!

## Animal Habitat



### Welcome to the STEM Adventure!

We will be practicing language arts, science and math skills as we explore the outdoors. Be observers as we discover how animals use their environments to create their habitats. Discover more in the way you learn best with hands-on activities, on-air PBS KIDS programming and online resources. WITF and IUs 12, 13 and 15 wish you happy exploring!

### Talk About It

What happens to living things when their environment changes?

The environment is what surrounds a living thing. Environments include other living things, nonliving things, climate and location. Ask your child, "What do living things need from their environment to survive?" Explain that living things will choose an environment that meets their needs. To protect themselves and their young from predators and weather, animals build their homes in many different types of environments. People, insects, birds and spiders all need homes. Ask your child to list all the kinds of animal homes they can think of (nests, webs, trees, underground holes, etc). Explain to your child that if the environment changes, animals will move or adapt.

Key Vocabulary: Environment

### Explore On-Air

Watch an episode of *Wild Kratts*.

*Wild Kratts* airs Monday - Friday on WITF TV at 7:30am and 12:30pm. You can also watch on WITFK 24/7 at 6pm and 6:30pm. The *Wild Kratts* episode you choose will help you explore animals and where they live.

### Explore Online

Habitat: Animal Homes - <https://tinyurl.com/ycwvs8qn>

Habitat Sweet Habitat - <https://tinyurl.com/ybejsndk>

### Try It Out

Take a walk outside with paper and something to write with and explore your environment. See if you can find a spider's web or signs of an animal home on your walk. Draw a picture of the animal home you see and its environment.

Materials: paper, crayons or pencils

Extension: Using materials at your house or found outside, build the home of a bat (cave), wasp (nest) or snake (underground hole). Pick one or build all three!

### You Could Be...

You could be an Environmentalist! Environmentalists, such as Vandana Shiva and Jane Goodall, help people make good choices regarding the environment.

Vandana Shiva



Jane Goodall



The Engineering by Design program is built around state and national standards that engage learners in authentic problem/project-based learning activities that build their understanding of Math, Science, Technology, Engineering and English-Language Arts while making sense of the world around them.



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<http://bit.ly/PBSiu121315>

