## **Critter Corner Extended Learning**

#### **Animals in Your Back Yard**

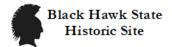
- 1. What is the Illinois State Bird
- 2. Even though it can be seen in a gray or black color, it is still the same animal.
- 3. What animal warns others with a fur coat that stands out?
- 4. What animal lays eggs in the spring in the water?
- 5. This Animal is really a glider.
- 6. This animal doesn't have a furry tail like its cousin.
- 7. What is the Iowa State Bird?

### **Feathered Friends**

- 1. A Robin can eat 14 feet of worms per day. If a worm is 4 inches long, how many total worms would a robin eat in a day? In a week?
- 2. If a hummingbird has an average speed of 25mph, how long would it take a hummingbird to fly across the 500 mile wide Gulf of Mexico?
- Write about a day in the life of your favorite bird.
- 4. If you created a new state to add to our country, what would the name for the state be? What bird would be the state bird?
- 5. A hummingbird eats half its body weight in a food each day at this rate, how much food would your 80 pound dog eat?

## Adaptations (Who am I?)

- 1. I have no teeth, but powerful jaws.
- 2. I protect my eyes with clear eye caps.
- 3. I fly forward, backward, and hover.
- 4. We possess talons and a sharp, curved beak.
- 5. We have cheek pockets that help us carry food.
- 6. I have eyes but I depend on listening for sounds bouncing off my environment.



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### **Incredible Insects**

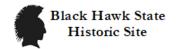
- 1. These two butterflies look the same to birds.
- 2. What is the Illinois State Insect?
- 3. What is often mistaken for a hummingbird?
- 4. How long does a male cicada live as an adult?
- 5. What is the difference between how a dragonfly and a damselfly holds it's wings?
- 6. What would you pick for a new State Insect? Why?

## **Birds of Prey**

- 1. What is the real name for the "Sparrow Hawk"?
- 2. Write about the day in the life of your favorite bird of prey.
- 3. How do the Osprey and Bald Eagle differ in their pursuit of fish?
- 4. What is unique about the Burrowing Owl's nest?
- 5. Why does the Cooper's Hawk come to bird feeders?

### **Best Buddies**

- 1. Describe one 'Best Buddy' relationship you learned about.
- 2. How does the hummingbird use the spider's web?
- 3. The Maple Tree is the 'Best Buddy' of which two birds?
- 4. Why does the Oriole place cottonwood seeds in its nest?
- 5. How do other animals use the groundhog's abandoned burrow?
- 6. When predators try to sneak up on unsuspecting birds, what is their warning?



# Critter Corner Extended Learning

### **Nature's Outcasts**

- 1. Have a trial!
  - a. Pick an animal to put on trial
  - b. Pick a prosecutor, defense attorney, jury, and judge
  - c. Have the prosecutor and defense attorney present their case
  - d. Jury deliberates then decides verdict
  - e. Judge declares sentence
- 2. What are the two big groups of spiders?
- 3. Do toads give you warts?
- 4. What are the two reasons snapping turtles snap?

### **Nocturnal Animals**

- 1. What animal is more active at night underneath the ground?
- 2. Which squirrel is completely nocturnal?
- 3. What is the owl's main sense for locating its prey?
- 4. If an owl can eat 4 mice a day, how many mice would it eat in a year?
- 5. What are the 3 most common lowa and Illinois owls?

## **Nature's Preparation for Winter**

- 1. What reptile hibernates in groups for the winter?
- 2. This animal seeks a warmer climate (migrates) for the winter.
- 3. Changing the color of its fur coat to white helps this animal prepare for the winter.
- 4. Which four mammals hibernate?
- 5. What bird grows an extra thousand feathers for the winter?

