

Wild & Wary: Vermont's Turkeys Grade Levels: K-2 & 3-4

Unlike earlier times, the turkey we enjoy today isn't a wild bird, but rather farm-raised. While tasty, the domestic turkey is not nearly as fascinating in behavior or development as its wild cousin. With slides, touchable artifacts, and interactive activities, students explore the history, habitat, life-cycle and behavior of Vermont's wild turkeys. Our inquiry includes activities highlighting the importance of predators in shaping the turkey's behavior and survival strategies.

Next Generation Science Standards Addressed:

Kindergarten

K-LS1-1. Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive.

K-ESS3-1. Use a model to represent the relationship between the needs of different plants or animals (including humans) and the places they live.

First Grade

1-LS1-1. Use materials to design a solution to a human problem by mimicking how plants and/or animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow and meet their needs.

1-LS1-2. Read texts and use media to determine patterns of behavior of parents and offspring that help offspring survive.

1-LS3-1. Make observations to construct an evidence-based account that young plants and animals are like, but not exactly like their parents.

Second Grade

2-LS4-1. Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.

Third Grade

3-LS1-1. Develop models to describe that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles but all have in common birth, growth, reproduction and death.

3-LS2-1. Construct an argument that some animals form groups that help members survive.

3-LS3-2. Use evidence to support the explanation that traits can be influenced by the environment.

Fourth Grade

4-LS1-1. Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior and reproduction.

4-LS1-2. Use a model to describe that animals receive different types of information through their senses, process the information in their brain and respond to the information in different ways.