Wildlife Detective Training

Discover who is in your classroom!
What is a detective?
Someone who uses clues to solve mysteries

What is wildlife?
Animals that live in the wild
Can you think of your favorite examples?

What kind of clues can we use to find animals?
Tracks, colors and sounds
Clues - TRACKS!

What happens when you step in the mud?
Clues - TRACKS!

- Animals leave tracks too!
Animals have unique coats and colors

Do you recognize who some of the coats belong to?
Clues - SOUNDS!

- Just like people, animals make noises too!
- Different animals have different sounds that they make
- Can you guess who makes these sounds?

Source: Seaworld Animal-Sounds
Mystery #1

➢ Why are there two sets of tracks?
➢ Why is one smaller than the other?
➢ Why are the coat patterns different?

Source: Naturetracking.com
Mystery #1

➢ Why are there two sets of tracks?
Two animals have left tracks

➢ Why is one smaller than the other?
One is a baby. A baby deer is called a fawn

➢ Why are the coat colors different?
Fawns are camouflaged, their white spots help them blend in with the grass

Source: Naturetracking.com
Mystery #1 Baby Animals

➢ Sometimes, parent and baby animals stay together until the baby is full grown. This improves the chances of the baby surviving.

➢ How do parents help their babies stay alive?
Mystery #2

➢ Why do the tracks come from a pond?
➢ Why do they disappear and reappear?
➢ Does the animal have fur or feathers?

Source: Naturetracking.com
Mystery #2

➢ Why do the tracks come from a pond?
   *The animal can swim*

➢ Why do they disappear and reappear?
   *The animal can also fly!*

➢ Does the animal have fur or feathers?
   *Ducks have feathers, not fur*

Source: Naturetracking.com
Mystery #2 Locomotion

➢ Some animals can walk, swim AND fly. The way that we move is called “locomotion”

➢ What parts of the duck allow it to swim and fly?
Mystery #3

➢ Why are there two sets of tracks, are they the same or different?

➢ Why does one set of tracks disappear?
Mystery #3

➢ Why are there two sets of tracks, are they the same or different?

There are two animals, but not the same kind

➢ Why does one set of tracks disappear?

Red foxes sometimes eat rabbits

Source: Naturetracking.com
Mystery #3 Predators and Prey

➢ **Predators** are animals that eat other animals to stay alive

➢ **Prey** are animals that are eaten by predators

➢ **Rabbits** are prey for red fox predators

➢ What other examples of predators and prey and you think of?
Congratulations!

You have cracked the cases! Thanks for your hard work,

Wildlife Detective!