



ACTIVITY 1

Animals 9 May Have to Rescue Plato From



RANCH LIFE SERIES / BOOK 3 / RANCH WILDLIFE

Chapter 2

Content Area

Science

Topic

Animal Traits, Habitats and Behaviors

Objective

Students will identify traits, habitats, and behaviors for large ranch animals.

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)

2.13B, 3.13A, 4.13AB, 5.13AB





Animals I May Have To Rescue Plato From

CONTENT AREA: Science

TOPIC: Animal Traits, Habitats and Behaviors

GAME MATERIALS:

- ANIMALS I MAY HAVE TO RESCUE PLATO FROM - CARDS, two sets per page (page A1 - 3): 1 set per student table group
- ANIMALS I MAY HAVE TO RESCUE PLATO FROM - SORTING MAT (page A1 - 4): 1 per student table group
- ANIMALS I MAY HAVE TO RESCUE PLATO FROM - SORTING MAT KEY (page A1 - 5): 1 per student table group
- THE BOTTOM LINE (page A1 - 6): 1 per student or student table group

COMBINED READING STRATEGY & ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Each group will need a set of ANIMALS I MAY HAVE TO RESCUE PLATO FROM - CARDS and an ANIMALS I MAY HAVE TO RESCUE PLATO FROM - SORTING MAT.
2. Students will read Chapter 2, pages 2-15.
3. As students are reading, they will look for each animal's habitat, traits, and behaviors within the chapter. Once they identify one of these components, they will find the matching card and place it on the SORTING MAT.
4. Once all groups have completed their sorting, have groups volunteer to share their answers and discuss any information that is different. Remind students, opposing ideas should be grounded in evidence from the chapter.

STUDENT SKILLS ASSESSMENT:

Have students (or student groups) complete THE BOTTOM LINE worksheet at the end of the activity.

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SECURITY BRIEFING –

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM HANK THE COWDOG:

Being the head of ranch security is a big job! As you can imagine, I must know a lot of information about the ranch and the many **animals** on and around the ranch. If you are going to be my deputy, here on Loper's ranch, you are going to have to learn a few things about the large animals we have on the ranch. For example, if you need to find one of these animals you need to know their **habitat** and how to identify the animals. If you know the **inherited traits** for the animal, it makes identification a breeze. No matter where you are, each **species** of animal has unique traits that will help you identify them by observable **characteristics**. The last thing you need to understand about large animals are their **behaviors**. Some large animals are gentle giants and others, like the Longhorn you learned about during Ranch Life Series book 1: Ranching and Livestock, can be a bit frisky and downright mean! Handling those critters should only be done by a trained professional like myself.

ACTIVITY MATERIALS:

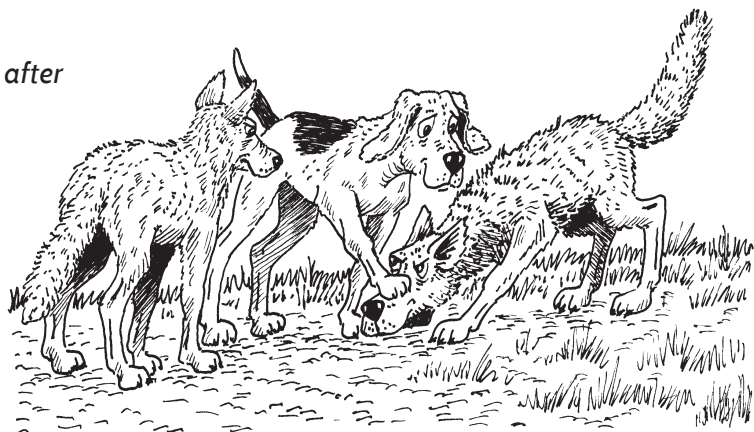
- LARGE ANIMAL SORTING CARDS
- LARGE ANIMAL SORTING MAT
- THE BOTTOM LINE

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

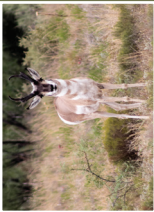
1. Your group will need a set of LARGE ANIMAL SORTING CARDS and a LARGE ANIMAL SORTING MAT.
2. As you read, look for each animal's habitat, traits, and behaviors within the chapter. Once you identify one of these components, find the matching card and place it on the sorting mat.
3. Once your group has completed the sorting mat, check your answers. Your information will be shared with your classmates during a discussion led by your teacher.

WRAP UP:

Fill out THE BOTTOM LINE worksheet after you have completed the activity.



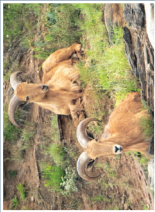
All Terrains		PRONGHORN ANTELOPE	Eats Vegetation (flowers, shrubs, bushes & tomatoes)	White Tail	Antlers Are Kept Year Round
Flat, open country		DEER	Large Body (300-400 lbs.)	Large Body (300 lbs.)	Jumps Over Fences
Rough country with deep canyons		AOUDAD SHEEP	Scoots Under Fence	Big Curled Horns	Has Large Litters
Rough, rocky terrain		FERAL HOG	Sandy Brown Coat	Eats Vegetation, (roots, grains, nuts, grain, eggs & small animals)	Long Ears Like a Mule
Fast Runners		Shy	"Beard"	Good Eyes	Camouflage
Root and Dig Up Food	Horns Are Shed	Response to Danger: FIGHT	Nocturnal	Long Tusks	Response to Danger: FLIGHT or FREEZE
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ANIMAL 	HABITAT
NAME	DESCRIPTION
BEHAVIOR	INHERITED TRAIT

ANIMAL 	HABITAT
NAME	DESCRIPTION
BEHAVIOR	INHERITED TRAIT

Animals I May Have To Rescue Plato From - Sorting Map

ANIMAL 	HABITAT
NAME	DESCRIPTION
BEHAVIOR	INHERITED TRAIT

ANIMAL 	HABITAT
NAME	DESCRIPTION
BEHAVIOR	INHERITED TRAIT

Animals I May Have To Rescue Plato From



NAME: _____ DATE: _____

THE BOTTOM LINE

Complete the following questions based on the information you learned during the sorting activity.

1. What similarities did the animals on the sorting mat have in common?

2. What differences did the animals have on the sorting mat?

3. For each animal, list one characteristic that helps it survive in its habitat.
 - a. Pronghorn Antelope:

 - b. Feral Hog:

 - c. Deer:

 - d. Aoudad Sheep:

4. Do you think that learned behaviors or inherited traits are more valuable for survival on the ranch?
Explain your answer.

