Nocturnal Animals Lesson Plan

Objectives: By the end of this lesson the students will be able explain the differences between a Nocturnal, Diurnal, and Corpuscular animal. Students will understand the reasons why some animals are more active at a certain time of the day or night.

Grades: K-8 (With Adaptions for High School Students)

Materials:

1. Cloths for blind folds
2. Animals from the Nocturnal Animals unit list.

Introduction:

During the start of the lesson the educator will pair off students. One student will put a blind fold on and the other student will have to guide them from one end of the room to the other. After words the educator will discuss with the students how difficult it was to walk across the room without being to see. Relate this to how animals that are active night have to rely on other senses then sight many times to get by.

Lesson:

Now the educator with define the terms Nocturnal, Diurnal, and Corpuscular and what the difference is between the animals that are active during these times. Then the educator will ask the students why they think one animal would want to be active at a certain time of day or night and explain what the advantages are to each type activity for animals. After this the educator will bring out and discuss how each animal species is built to be a nocturnal animal and how that affects their nightly activities in the wild.

Wrap Up:

Challenge the students to stay up one hour later than they normally would one day during the week and see how it affects their activity levels during that day and the next.