

# Wild Winter Worlds

## Season Four, Episode Eight

How do wildlife survive the tougher winter months? With cold temperatures and fewer food resources, the winter season can be challenging for a variety of wild animals. Some animals migrate to different areas, some hunker down for a long winter's nap, and some simply continue their daily activities. This episode highlights how a variety of wildlife species adapt to winter and also discusses a number of additional challenges wildlife face due to their human neighbors – including issues like climate change. Learn how we can minimize our impact on wildlife in an already difficult time of year.



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### Wild Winter Worlds Board Game Activity

Design your own Wild Winter Worlds board game! Using any materials and layout you choose, design a game in which players roll dice or draw cards to survive the winter season. Animals must migrate, hibernate, or adapt to survive. Create circumstances that send players forward on the board or backwards. You can have players trigger these circumstances however you choose (landing on a certain spot, drawing a card from a stack, etc). Create instructions that describe how each turn works and what it takes to win the game.

Here are some examples of circumstances you may choose to include, use these for inspiration, but come up with your own as well. Think carefully about what the consequences should be.

- You stored food during the plentiful spring and summer months, move ahead 3 spaces
- Your den is not big enough, you suffer frostbite on your tail and ears, move back 2 spaces
- You develop a thick fur coat, move ahead 2 spaces
- You stop eating insects as the temperature goes down, instead, you forage for berries, move ahead 1 space
- You are a hibernator, this was the coldest week of the year, but you snoozed right through.! Skip ahead 6 spaces!

After you finish designing your game, recruit some friends or classmates and play it several times. Did you notice any trends? What helped the animals/players survive the winter most?

Do you think your game was a good representation of how animals survive winter? Why or why not?

After having played your game, what would you change about it to make it a better representation of how wildlife migrates, hibernates, or adapts to changing seasons?



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