

DELAWARE WILDLIFE JUDGING LEADER'S GUIDE 2019-2020

The 4-H Wildlife Judging Contest is an event designed to teach youth the fundamentals of wildlife management. Although it is a competitive event, its primary function is education. Natural resources management is learned through participation in the contest and associated activities. Additional benefits are the development of leadership capabilities and meeting youth, adults and wildlife professionals throughout the state. In this program, youth will learn that management of wildlife means management of wildlife habitat and providing for the needs of wildlife.

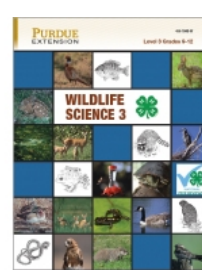
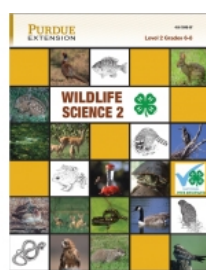
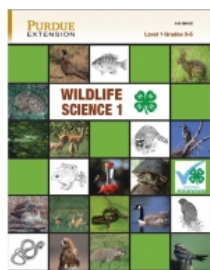
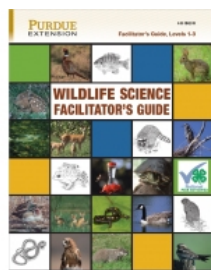
There are two divisions for this contest, Junior and Senior. The top 10 seniors from each county will participate in the state contest at the Delaware State Fair. Should 10 seniors not be available, juniors may be named to the County team.

Resources:

This contest will follow the Purdue Extension Wildlife Science Series Project Books. These books are available at www.shop4-H.com. The digital download for all 4 resources is currently \$22.00.

<https://shop4-h.org/collections/searchresults?type=product&q=wildlife>

Contact your local county 4-H office with questions related to this resource.



Please note: There are sections in the project books, where youth will need to do some research in preparation for this contest. Although there will be word banks and multiple choice/matching, there will also be some opportunity for open-ended responses. Most of the questions that require open-ended responses will have many possible correct answers.

Special Needs: If you are in need of special accommodations to participate in this program, please notify 4-H office, two weeks in advance of the event.

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Junior Contest

*Resources: Wildlife Science Facilitator's Guide
Wildlife Science Level 1*

- **Delaware animals and their foods:**

Be able to identify animals by pictures and name foods they consume*

American Bullfrog	White Tail Deer
Bluegill	Bald Eagle
Eastern Garter Snake	Groundhog
Black (Rat) Snake	Great Egret
Raccoon	American Horseshoe Crab
Red-Tailed Hawk	Piping Plover
Red Fox	Coyote
Skunk	Mole
Box Turtle	Opossum
Snapper Turtle	Beaver
Brown Bat	

*This is not an exhaustive list of all wildlife found in Delaware

- **Animal Needs:** Be familiar with animals and their needs
- **Vertebrate Classes:**
Be able to identify the 5 classes of vertebrates and be able to identify a vertebrate class given a picture or an animal name
- **Animal Traits:**
Be able to discuss traits of animals
 - **2019:** Mammals and Birds
 - **2020:** Fish and Herptiles
 - **2021:** Mammals and Birds etc.
- **Using a Dichotomous Key:**
Given a dichotomous key, be able to show how the key is followed and name the animals (information in back of guide)

Senior Contest

Resources: *Wildlife Science Facilitator's Guide*
Wildlife Science Level 2
Wildlife Science Level 3

- **Junior requirements above**
- **Animal Habitats** (Level 2)
 - **2019** Mammals and Birds
 - **2020** Fish and Herptiles
 - **2021** Mammals and Birds
- **Wildlife Careers – Own Research Required** (Level 2 and see links below)
- **Special Topics** (Level 2)
 - **Pioneers in Wildlife Conservation: 2019**
 - **Signs of Wildlife: 2020**
 - **Animal Endangerment: 2021**
- **Habitat Management** (Level 3)
Understand wildlife management concepts and practices. Given descriptions of habitats, be able to identify animals found there.
- **Habitat Judging:** (Level 1-3 Putting it all together)
Participants will be provided pictures of 4 habitats. Participants will be asked to judge the 4 habitats based on requirements for a given species. Participants will provide written reasons for their decision.

Use this format for written reasons: Introduction, Body, and Conclusion

Intro	I placed this class _____ (name class) 3,1,2,4
Body	I placed 3 over 1 because.... I placed 1 over 2 because... I placed 2 over 4 because...
Conclusion	For these reasons, I placed this class of _____ 3,1,2,4.

STATE CONTEST:

The state event will include a “role play scenario”. These are found in the Level 3 project book. One topic will be selected from the choices below; participants should be familiar with both.

2019: You are a Homeowner or You are the Mayor

2020: You live in a Wildlife Habitat or You are a Legislator

2021: You are a Teacher or You are a Food and Fiber Producer

Career Resources:

http://stem-works.com/subjects/30-the-animal-kingdom/cool_jobs

<http://wildlife.org/next-generation/career-development/careers/>

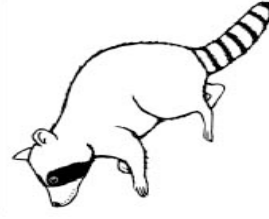
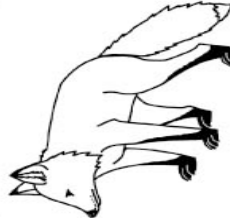
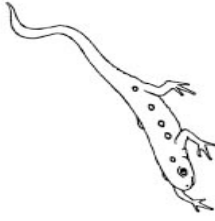
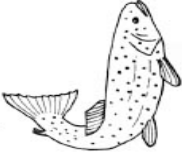
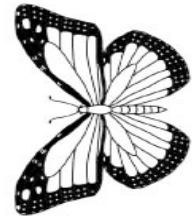
<https://www.wcs.org/about-us/careers>

Learn How to Use a Dichotomous Key - Common Animals

Use the dichotomous key to reach the names of each of the 12 animals AND the pathway you used to get there. This is about learning to use a key – not about knowing the names of these common animals (it is assumed you know their names). So use the blanks under the animal pictures to write the animal names AND the numbers in the key you follows to reach their names.

1. Does the animal have a backbone?
Yes - Go to 3
No - it is an insect - Go to 2
2. Does the animal change (go through metamorphosis) from a caterpillar to an adult form?
Yes - it is a butterfly.
No - it is a grasshopper.
3. Does the animal lay eggs?
Yes - Go to 4
No - Go to 9
4. Does the animal have feathers?
Yes - it is a bird.
No - Go to 5
5. Does the animal lay eggs in the water?
Yes - Go to 6
No - Go to 7
6. Does the animal live on land but come back to the water to lay its eggs.
Yes - Go to 8
No - it is a fish.
Yes - it is a turtle.
No - it is a snake.
8. Does the animal have lots of warty bumps and no tail?
Yes - it is a toad.
No - it is a newt (red eft).
9. Is the animal a carnivore (eats mostly meat)?
Yes - it is a fox.
No, Go to 10
10. Is the animal an omnivore (eats meat and plants)?
Yes - it is a raccoon.
No - it is a herbivore - Go to 11
11. Is the animal a rodent?
Yes - it is a squirrel.
No - it is a moose.

Dichotomous Key Animals - Answer KEY



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