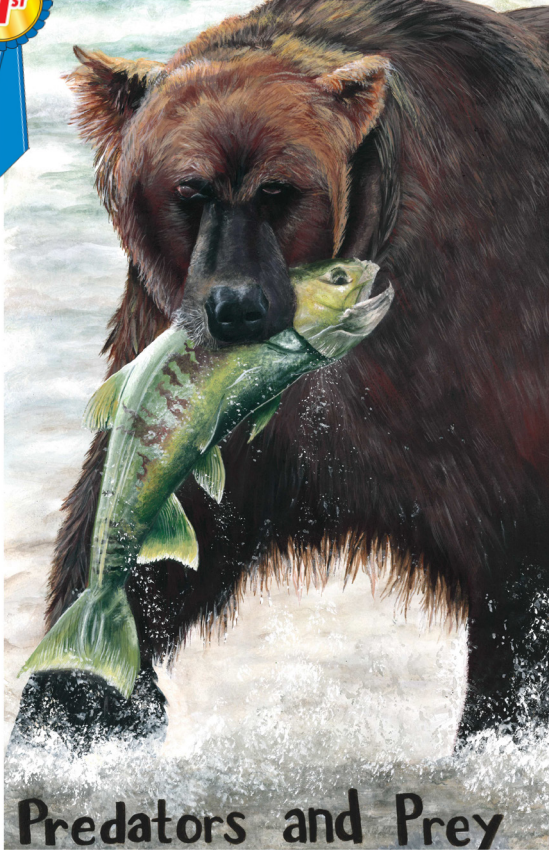


2022 Senior Poster Contest Winners

"Predators & Prey"

Senior 1st Place Winner

Mackenzie Miles, Lawrence County

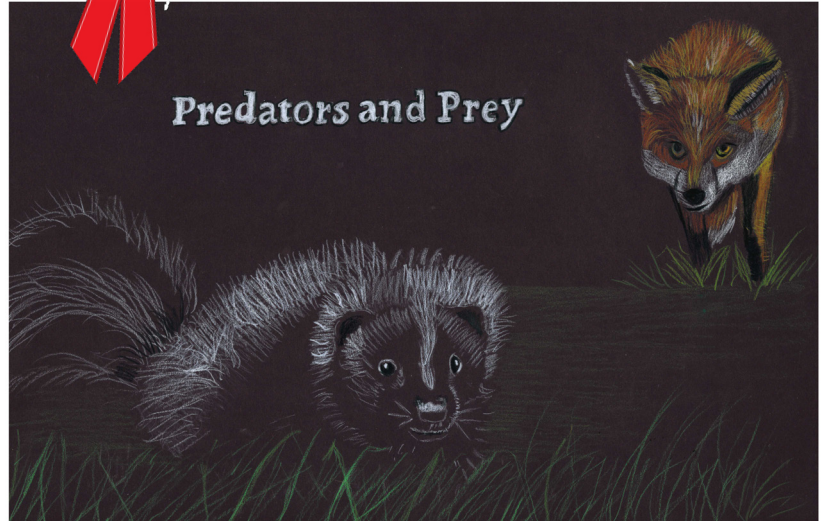


Mackenzie Miles - Bears have a diverse diet that includes numerous types of food. Bears will eat mammals, plants, fruit, nuts and fish. This makes them extremely predatory.



Senior 2nd Place Winner

Marissa Palmatier, Potter County



Marissa Palmatier - I picked the fox and skunk for my predator and prey project. The reason why fox and skunks are considered predator and prey is because foxes eat skunks. Foxes are incredibly clever animals and they will be far more likely to eat a skunk that has already died, rather than risk getting covered in that disgusting scent.

They may not avoid killing a live skunk entirely, though. In times of extreme hunger, desperation, and low food sources, a fox may have no other choice than to prey on a skunk. Another reason why foxes might choose to prey on skunks during times of desperation is that both animals are mostly nocturnal. With this in mind, skunks are much more available to foxes than other food sources which they'd have to risk coming out into the daylight to hunt.

Senior 3rd Place Winner

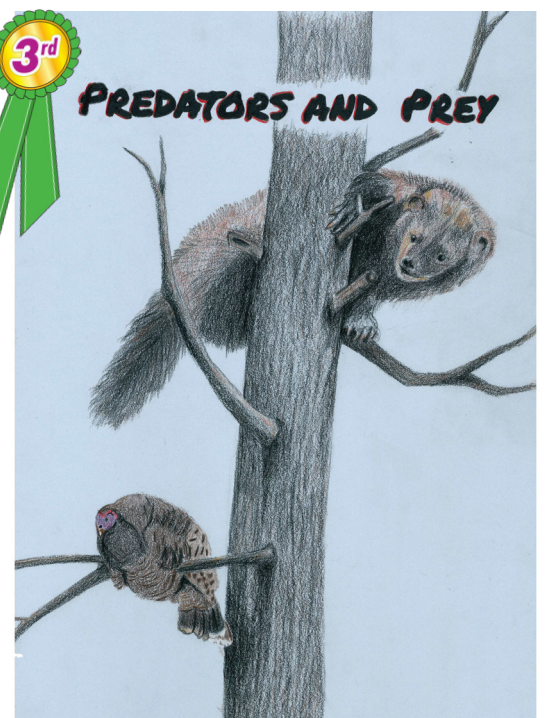
Autumn Harig, Potter County



Autumn Harig - The fisher, a member of the weasel family is found in Pennsylvania. Sometimes referred to as a fisher cat, tree fox, or fisher weasel it is a carnivore. Adult males can weigh up to fifteen pounds and range from 35 to 48 inches in length. A fisher's diet is primarily birds and rodents.

Fishers are ferocious and are known to prey on porcupines along with killing large prey such as the wild turkey and bobcat. There is evidence of white-tail deer predation. Many turkey hunters believe that fishers are big time turkey predators. Because of the fisher's ability to climb trees, it is believed that fishers take turkeys while roosting in the trees. Local hunters believe this is the reason for turkey flock decline in our area of Potter County.

A recent study from the University of Indiana PA directed by Dr. Jeff Larkin (2002 to 2014 and published in 2016) showed that six of 91 fishers examined had remains of raccoon in their stomachs. Only a few had bird remains and none were the wild turkey. I believe that more studies should be conducted concerning the fisher and its predation on the wild turkey in our geographical area of Potter County.

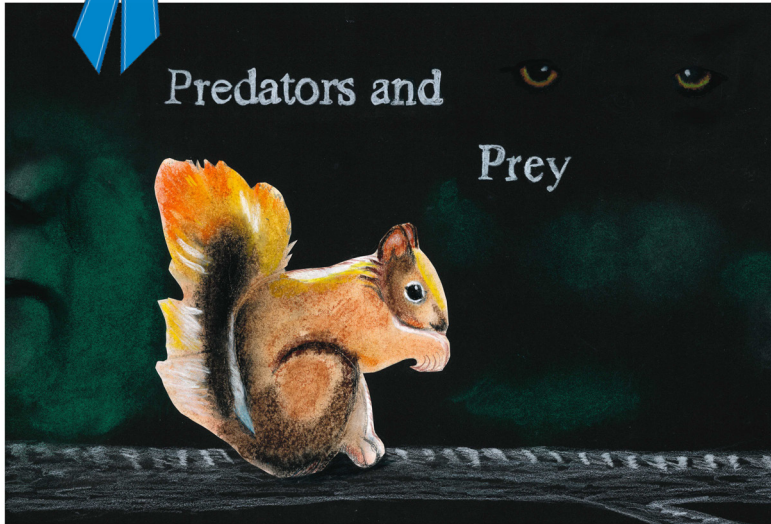


2022 Junior Poster Contest Winners

"Predators & Prey"



Junior 1st Place Winner
Julian Seratt, Potter County

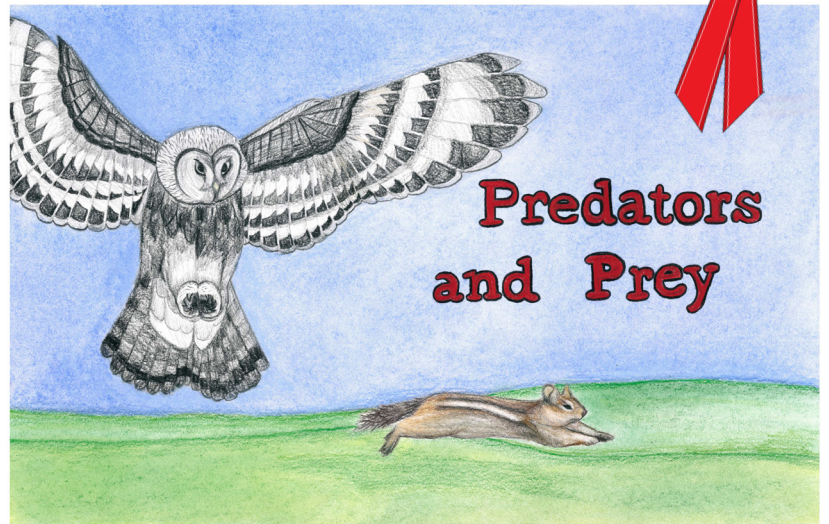


Julian Seratt - Eastern Coyotes will prey on Red squirrels which are abundant in Potter County, rats and other small creatures, also garbage, fallen fruit and even small pets if left outside. 90 percent of coyotes diets are mammals. The other 10 percent consists of plants and fruit.

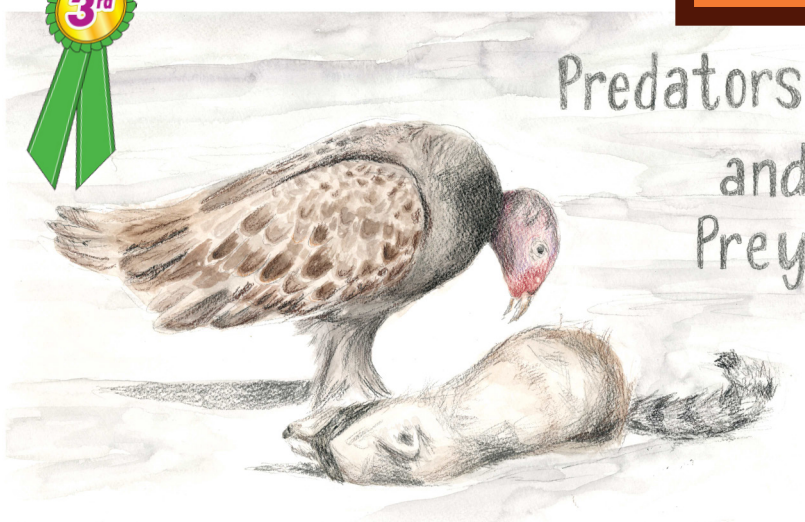
Junior 2nd Place Winner
Lillian Steele, Potter County



Lillian Steele - This poster shows the connection between the predator being the Great Gray Owl, and the prey being the Eastern chipmunk. The Great Gray Owl, also known as *Strix nebulosa*, is a very large owl that can be 24-33 inches. The owl can have a wingspan of up to 5 feet. They usually weigh 2-4 pounds and live for about 25 years. Great Gray Owls, besides chipmunks, also prey on voles, pocket gophers, squirrels, rabbits, and weasels. The Eastern Chipmunk, also known as *Tamias striatus*, are wooded rodents that usually range from 8-10 inches in length. They usually weigh 4.5 ounces and live about 3 years in the wild. Besides owls, their main predators are hawks, snakes, weasels, foxes, bobcats, raccoons, rats, and coyotes. This predator-prey connection is commonly found in everyday habits around the wooded parts of the country.



Junior 3rd Place Winner
Haley Colling, Lawrence County



Haley Colling - This painting portrays the meaning of predator and pray through two particular species - the turkey buzzard and raccoon. The turkey buzzard does a service of cleaning off the roadkill, which completes the circle of life. My illustration is one of many nature scenes that can be found in Pennsylvania.

2023 Theme
Rediscovering the Outdoors

2022 Sub-Junior Poster Contest Winner "Predators & Prey"

Sub-Junior 1st Place Winner
Bekah Pardoe, Butler County

Bekah Pardoe - I chose to draw a hawk catching a snake to show how predators feed their babies. Her nest is in the background. A hawk has excellent vision so that it can spot its prey very high in the sky and come down on the prey at a very high speed.



2023 Poster/Photo Contest Theme "Rediscovering the Great Outdoors"

The Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists and the Pennsylvania Wildlife Federation Invites Youth to Share their Love of the Outdoors through Art and Photography in the Annual Art Poster & Photo Contest

Each year the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists and the Pennsylvania Wildlife Federation invites students in grades 4-12 to participate in its poster and photo contest to encourage creative expression and an appreciation and understanding of the outdoor world. The contests are open to school-aged children in grades 4-12 who live in Pennsylvania. Entries will compete against others in the same age group. Youngsters can be attending public, private or home schools. Questions about the contest or for information on rules and how to enter? Contact the PFSC/PWF office at (717) 232-3480 or susan@pfsc.org.

We hope to encourage our youth to learn more about Pennsylvania's wildlife, fisheries, and natural resources through these contests.

This year's theme: "Rediscovering the Great Outdoors"

Social distancing, lockdowns and closures from the COVID pandemic changed how we all function in our daily routines and activities. Many families looked to the outdoors as their method of beating cabin fever and getting out of the house. For this year's contest, we are looking for depictions of how you, your family and your friends rediscovered the great outdoors during COVID social distancing restrictions.

What types of outdoor recreation did you participate in to beat lockdowns? Hiking, biking, canoeing, hunting, trapping, fishing? Were the activities new to you?

Get Excited, Get Involved, Get Outside! By looking closer at nature, you will see how conservation efforts promote and protect our natural resources and how you can make your neighborhood a better place to live so you can enjoy the outdoors in your backyard.

A link to entry forms, rules, deadlines and instructions, can be found at www.pawildlife.org