

Nature's Big Year

Film Synopsis: Scientists around the world share their unexpected and astounding discoveries from the year of the pandemic, revealing species that benefited from our absence and showed incredible ability to rebound when humans hit pause.

Age: 10-14

Link to Film: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/t14nm9s9b88ygc7un688w/Nature-s-Big-Year.mp4?rlkey=n5g5foejbyyaoem91e1u8v0pj&dl=0>

NATURES BIG YEAR UNIT OUTLINE

Lesson 01

Local Ecosystems and Our Involvement

Outcome: IE 7.4 Indicator: D

This lesson will focus on local ecosystems and what animals and vegetation is seen there. Students will be able to provide personal insight to this.. They will discuss how they impact the environment (do they walk or use a vehicle to get to school, do they recycle? how much water do they consume?).

Lesson 02

Global Ecosystems and Our Involvement

Outcome: IE 7.4 Indicator: F

Viewing the film "Natures Big Year", students will examine ecosystems during the global pandemic. How were various species affected by slowed down human activity? Should we consider leaving some ecosystems alone to benefit the species within it?

Lesson 03

Our Involment in the Survival of Ecosystems

Outcome: IE 7.4 Indicator: C

Using the animal the student chose to focus on in lesson one, students will remain in their group to create an inquiry project in what they can do to secure the survival of their animal and ecosystem.

**Remember to always preview
the film, prior to screening!**

Lesson Plan: Nature's Big Year

Grade: 6-8

Subject: Science

Topic:

Wildlife and Human Connections

Themes:

Human Effects on the environment

Curricular Connections:

Outcome: IE 7.4- Analyze how ecosystems change in response to natural and human influences and propose actions to reduce the impact of human influences and propose actions to reduce the impact of human behaviour on a specific ecosystem.

Materials Needed:

- Nature Big Year Film
- Journal
- Pencil
- Activities provided.

Essential Questions:

How do humans effect the ecosystem and the animals in specific areas?

How did the global pandemic benefit animals?

How can we use this new knowledge to better animals in our area?

Structure:

- Set: As a class, we will discuss how we think we impact our environment; how can we be better for our environment?
- During: Students will pick an animal from the provided list to focus on while viewing the film. Notes will be necessary, to allow the students to complete the follow up activity.
- After: Students will be put into groups to discuss the animal they chose to focus on, ideally each member will have written notes on the different animals from the film. Following, they will complete a small inquiry project in the same groups and present to the class.

Understandings:

Students will understand how humans impact our environment every day, examining various animals in different ecosystems. In the activity, students will investigate how they can get involved and live more sustainably. bettering the ecosystem for the animal they chose to research.

Natures Big Year: Animal Questionnaire

Instructions: Pick an animal from the list below and fill in the question chart WHILE watching the film. Be prepared to share your answers with your classmates.

Animals: Wolf Owl Hummingbird Turtle

Name of my animal:

Where is its ecosystem?	
Is it a mammal, reptile, or bird?	
Did it experience migration changes during the pandemic?	
How was it affected by the pandemic?	
Are these changes able to be re-created without a pandemic?	
Fun Fact:	

Yorkton Film Festival Film Lessons

(All information is required)

Email this form to Taynika at coordinator@yorktonfilm.com

Name	
School	
Email Address	
Mailing Address	
Lesson Used	
Number of Viewers	
Comments	

