

Nocturnal Animals

Use the words at the bottom of the page to help you fill in the blanks.

Nocturnal animals are animals that are mainly _____ during the _____. They hunt or feed during the night, and sleep during the _____.

Some nocturnal animals can be seen during the day, but most of them spend their whole day _____. Examples of nocturnal animals include bats, kinkajous, armadillos and some _____.

Nocturnal animals sleep during the day for various reasons. Most nocturnal animals sleep during the day to avoid _____ that are active during the day. For example, sea turtles go to their breeding sites in order to keep themselves _____ and protect their offspring.

Lots of nocturnal animals live in the _____ and also the desert. Some are therefore also staying out of the hot _____ during the day. Many nocturnal animals have good night _____. They tend to have very large _____, with pupils that open more widely in low _____. This means their eyes gather more light than the human eye, making these animals very well adapted to life in the dark!

VISION

NIGHT

OWLS

DAY

PREDATORS

SAFE

EYES

ACTIVE

LIGHT

RESTING

RAINFOREST

SUN

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Nocturnal Animals

KINKAJOU

Potos flavus



DESCRIPTION

Kinkajous are nocturnal rainforest mammals related to animals including coatis and raccoons. They are often mistaken for lemurs, monkeys or even ferrets but are not closely related to any of these. They are the size of a small/medium cat, with golden brown fur and have large round dark eyes.

DISTRIBUTION

Native to Central and South America, kinkajous inhabit the canopy layer of tropical forests. They have a prehensile (gripping) tail, which they use like an extra limb, enabling them to climb extremely well in the trees.

DIET

Although omnivores (eating meat and plants), it is thought their diet consists 90% of fruit, and 10% of leaves and flowers. Kinkajous play an important role in seed dispersal in the rainforest.

LIFE SPAN

20-25 years, although they have been known to reach 40 years in captivity.

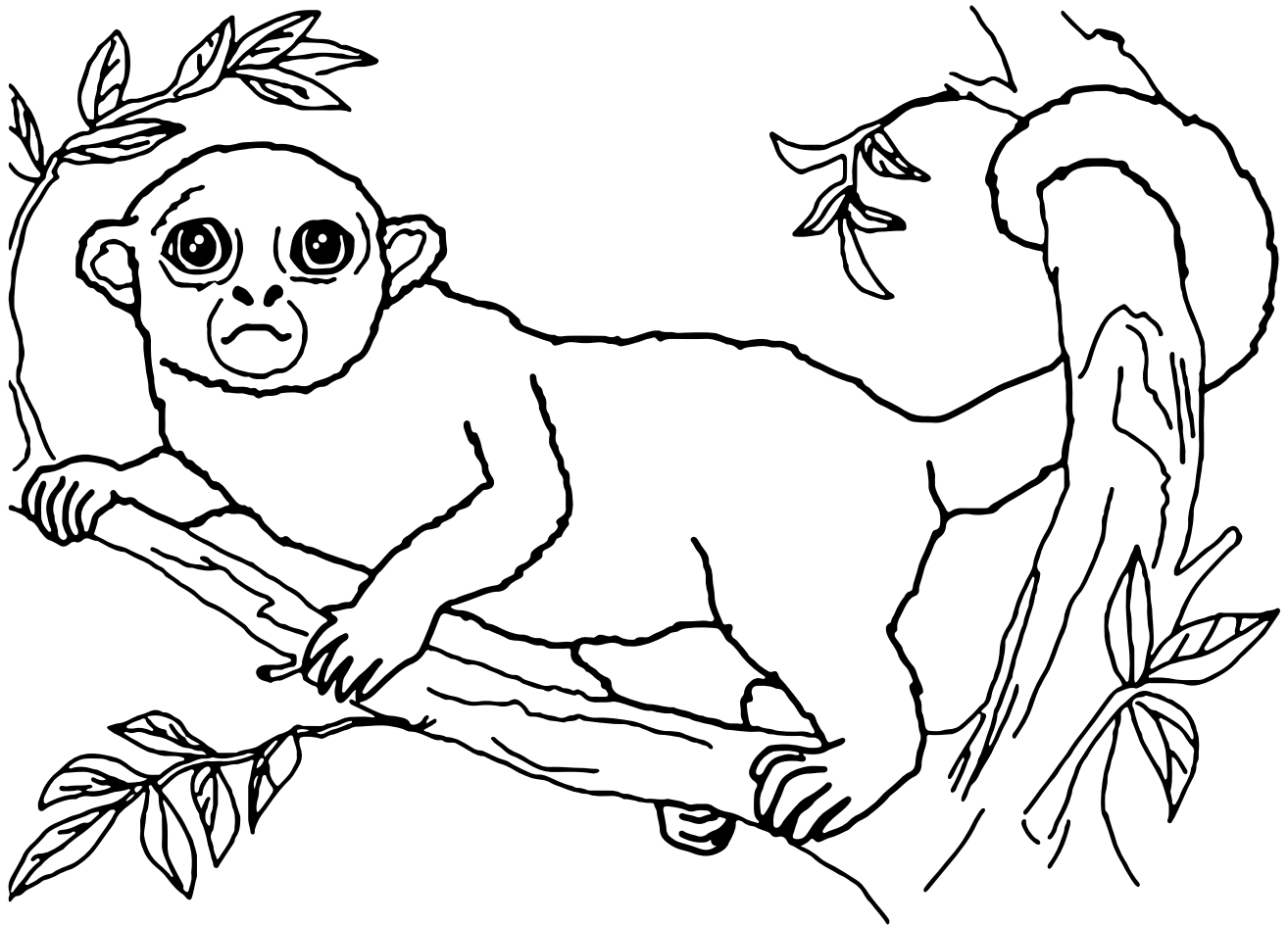
STATUS IN THE WILD: Least concern.



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Today we learnt about nocturnal animals.
Here is a kinkajou for you to colour in!

Nocturnal Animals

CHILEAN ROSE TARANTULA

Grammostola rosea



DESCRIPTION

Chilean rose tarantulas are an attractive species of tarantula. They are predominantly dark brown with rosy pink hairs covering them; hence how they got their name Chilean rose.

DISTRIBUTION

Chilean rose tarantulas are often found near desert or scrubland areas in Chile, Bolivia and Argentina and are thought to be wanderers, however large numbers have been observed burrowing in their natural habitat.

DIET

Their diet mainly consists of invertebrates including crickets, grasshoppers, mealworms and cockroaches.

LIFE SPAN

Male tarantulas live for approximately 3-7 years whereas females can live for over 20! Females are generally larger than the males and following the mating process; she will often attack and kill her mate!

STATUS IN THE WILD: Not evaluated.

Nocturnal Animals

ASIAN FOREST SCORPION

Heterometrus longimanus



DESCRIPTION

Asian forest scorpions are one of the largest species of scorpion, reaching up to 5 inches in length. They have 8 legs, a pair of pincers and are mainly black in colour. They are closely related to spiders as they are in the same class, Arachnida.

DISTRIBUTION

They are widely distributed across tropical and subtropical South East Asia, including Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Being nocturnal creatures, they like to hide in burrows, under logs and in leaf litter.

DIET

They will feast on a variety of small invertebrates, including crickets, spiders and cockroaches.

LIFE SPAN

On average they will survive 7-8 years.

STATUS IN THE WILD: Not evaluated.

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NOCTURNAL WORDSEARCH

H	A	N	N	P	T	R	E	E	F	R	O	G	C
S	E	O	G	I	L	L	I	O	A	E	G	S	C
L	H	I	E	U	G	R	R	O	C	H	S	F	R
W	R	P	Y	S	P	H	E	D	G	E	H	O	G
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A	A	C	I	E	D	N	L	L	E	R	T	O	I
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T	L	H	A	T	S	U	R	H	U	T	C	N	N
R	I	A	R	L	N	R	A	A	D	N	T	A	T
S	H	R	S	E	G	R	T	G	N	A	S	L	I

EYESIGHT
NIGHT
PREDATORS
OWL
EARS
DARK
HEDGEHOG
KINKAJOU
SCORPION
TURTLE
SMELL
TARANTULA
NOCTURNAL
TREEFROG
INSECTS

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2033506/>

Nocturnal Animals

Answer Sheet (Teachers info)

Nocturnal animals are animals that are mainly **ACTIVE** during the **NIGHT**.

They hunt or feed during the night, and sleep during the **DAY**.

Some nocturnal animals can be seen during the day, but most of them spend their whole day **RESTING**. Examples of nocturnal animals include bats, kinkajous, aardvarks and some **OWLS**.

Nocturnal animals sleep during the day for various reasons. Most nocturnal animals sleep during the day to avoid **PREDATORS** that are active during the day.

For example, sea turtles go to their breeding sites in order to keep themselves **SAFE** and protect their offspring.

Lots of nocturnal animals live in the **RAINFOREST** and also the desert. Some are therefore also staying out of the hot **SUN** during the day. Many nocturnal animals have good night **VISION**. They tend to have very large **EYES**, with pupils that open more widely in low **LIGHT**. This means their eyes gather more light than the human eye, making these animals very well adapted to life in the dark!

