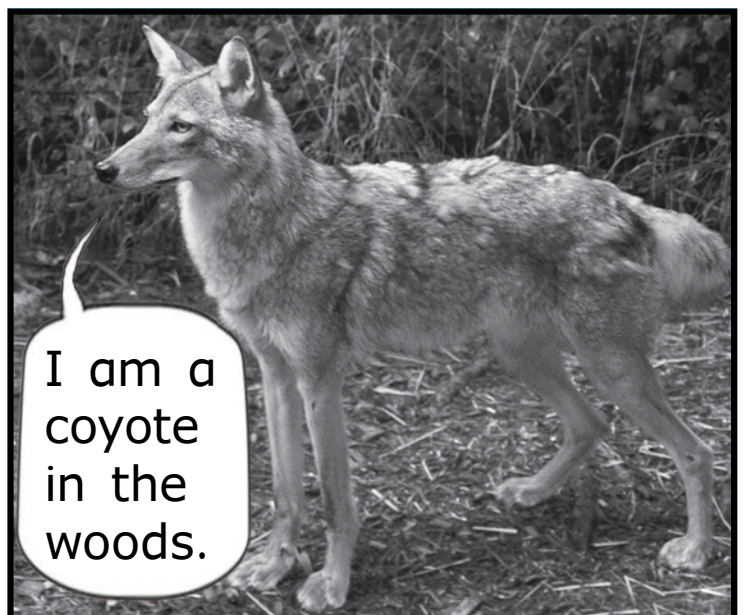
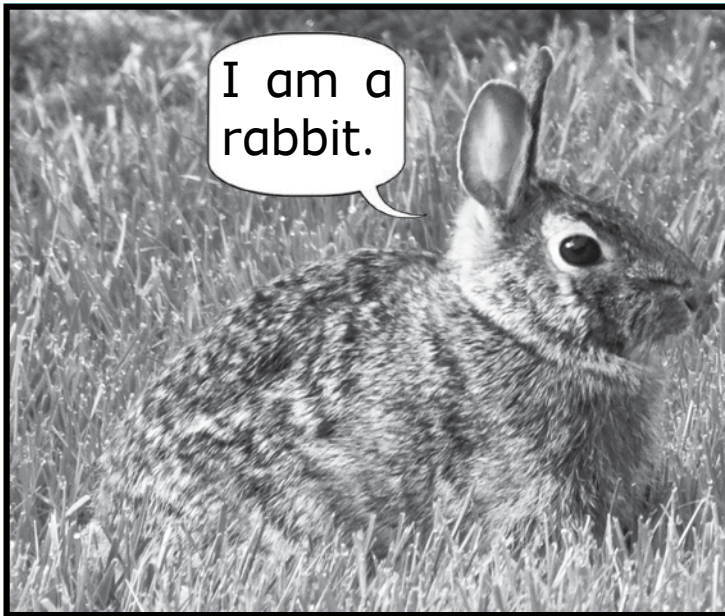


The Woods



The Woods



In The Woods, Danny sees many different woodland animals.

Have you ever gone for a walk in the woods? What types of animals did you see while you were walking in the woods?

Name some woodland animals in this story strip. Circle the animal words in the story strip above. (Hint: There are six.) Write their names:

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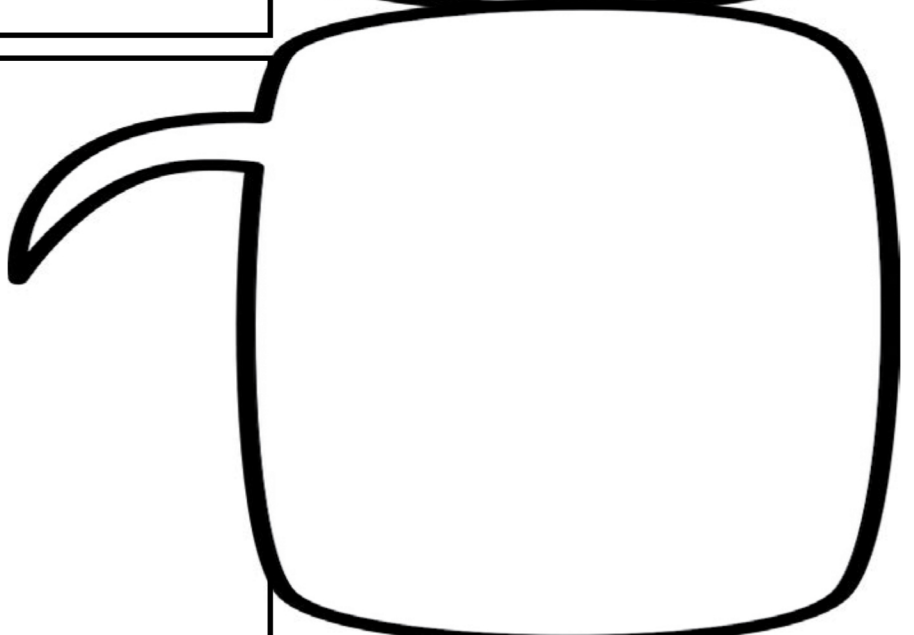
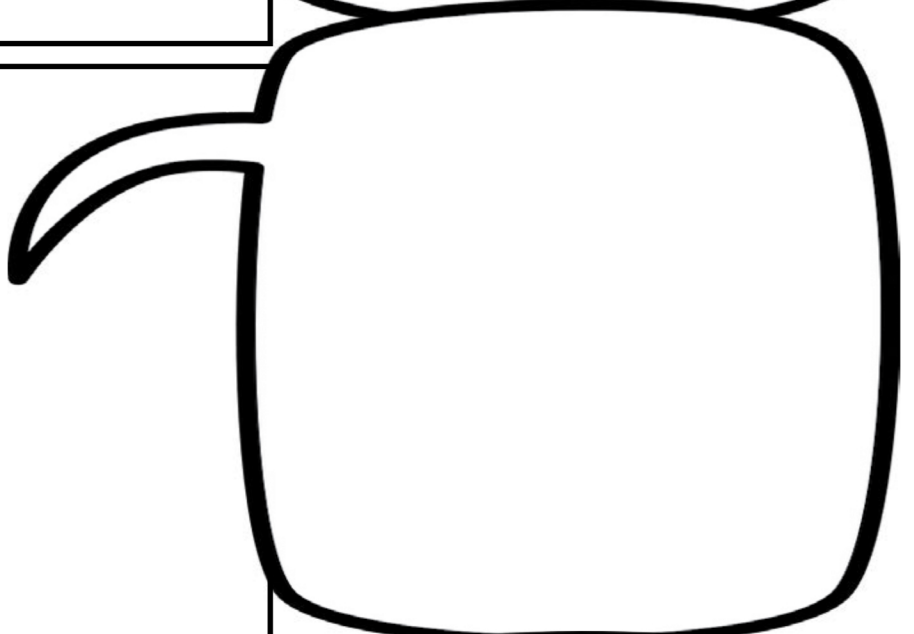
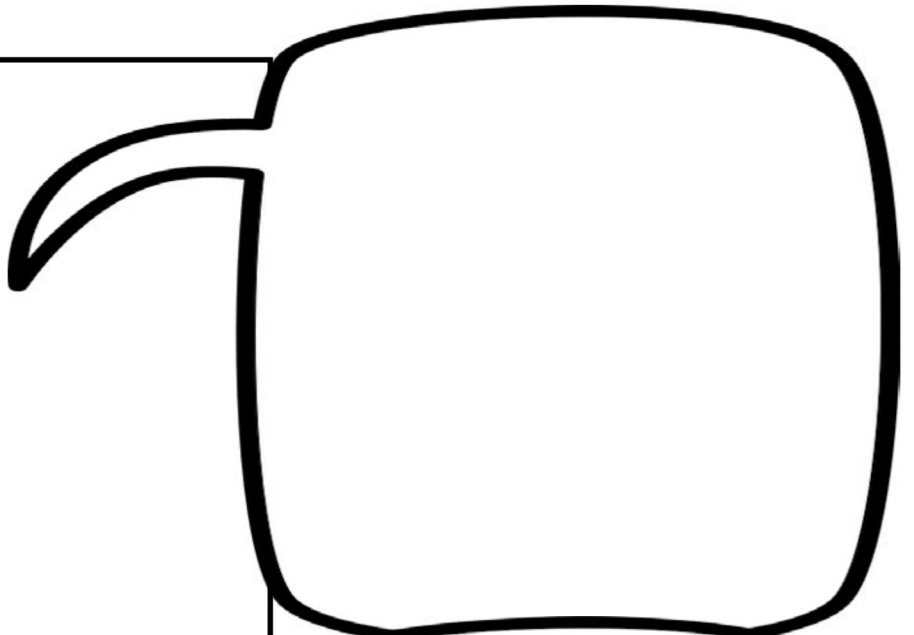
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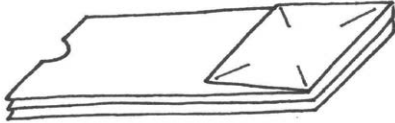
Why do you think these animals live in the woods? What kinds of homes do you think the animals make in the woods? Can you think of any other animals that might live in the woods? Complete the sentence:

I saw a _____ in the woods.

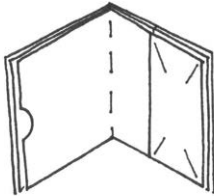
On the back of this paper, draw a picture of the animal that you saw in the woods.



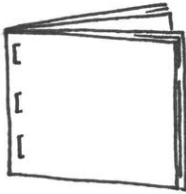
Make Your Own Field Journal for Spring Walks in the Woods



1. Stack 3 paper lunch bags flap-side up.



2. Fold the stack in half and crease.



3. Staple the field journal into place.

- * The first 3 pages of the journal will have pockets on the side created by the bag opening. Use these pockets to hold 3x5 index cards with drawings, leaves or notes on them.
- * The last 3 pages will have cool flaps created by the folded bag bottoms. Use these flaps to make fun lift-the-flap question and answer pages, or staple them at the top and bottom to make a little sideways pocket.

Surviving Cold Winters through Migration, Hibernation, and Adaptation

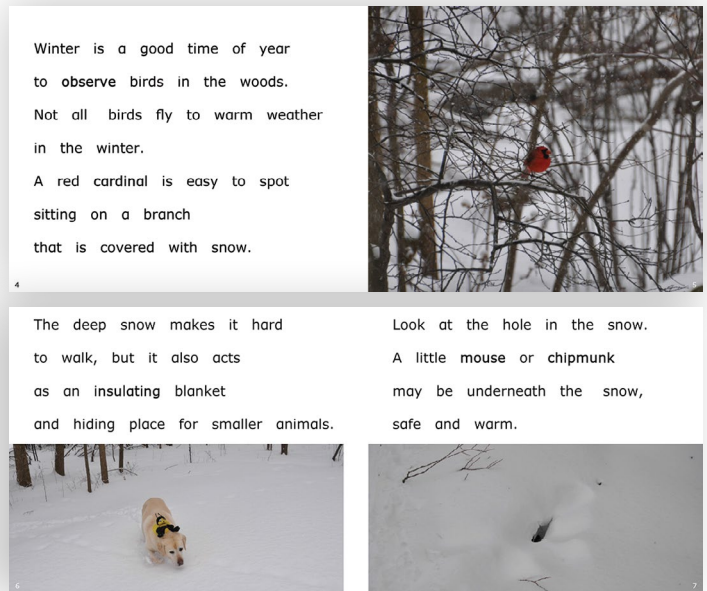
In the northern and much of the mid-western United States, we have hot summers and cold winters. Individual animals have evolved different ways to survive the change in the seasons.

Some animals **migrate**, which means they leave the cold weather, where life is hard, and travel to a place where warmer weather makes finding food and shelter easier. Well known examples of animals which migrate include birds like Canada geese, robins, and hummingbirds. Monarch Butterflies also fly south to escape cold northern winters. In the ocean, whales migrate, and on land herds of buffalo are on the move too. Even earthworms, which we may think of as too slow moving to travel very far, do their own migration by digging deeper into the ground to stay warm.

Animals who **hibernate** survive the cold weather by staying in a warm place and sleeping the winter away. They eat a lot before their deep sleep, storing up fat. Because of the saved fat, hibernating animals need little or no food. Groundhogs, black bears, skunks, and some bats hibernate. Frogs and turtles do something similar by burying themselves in the mud and remaining inactive until spring.

Animals which stay active throughout the winter have **adapted** to the seasonal changes by making their own corresponding changes. They grow a thicker layer of feathers or fur to help them stay warm. On the coldest days, many will hide in a sheltered, safe place. Adaptive animals also store fat, in the autumn when food's more plentiful. Deer, raccoons, foxes, rabbits, squirrels, mice and many birds (chickadees and cardinals) survive winter by being adaptive.

Now is the perfect time for students to read **Autumn in the Woods** and **Winter in the Woods** from the MRB series **In The Woods with Danny and Bee**.



Design Your Own Cold Winter Surviving Animal

Ask students to design their own wild animal, with characteristics that would help it survive through a cold winter. They will need to decide if their animal will migrate, hibernate or adapt to the cold weather that's coming. Have students draw a picture of what their animal would look like, give it a name, and write about its fall and winter behavior. Use the questions on the next page as a guide.

Migration Plan:

An animal who travels during winter to a place where it's warmer and there's more food.

1. How will your animal survive the winter?
2. How will it travel?
3. Where will it go?
4. What is your animal's body covering?
4. How will it find food during the trip?
5. How will it protect itself from predators while traveling?

Hibernation Plan:

An animal who sleeps during the winter months, needing little or no food.

1. How will your animal survive the winter?
2. Where will it sleep?
3. What is your animal's body covering?
4. How will it survive the winter without eating?
5. How will it protect itself from predators while sleeping?

Adaptation Plan:

An animal who stays active in winter and grows a thick layer of fat or fur to stay warm.

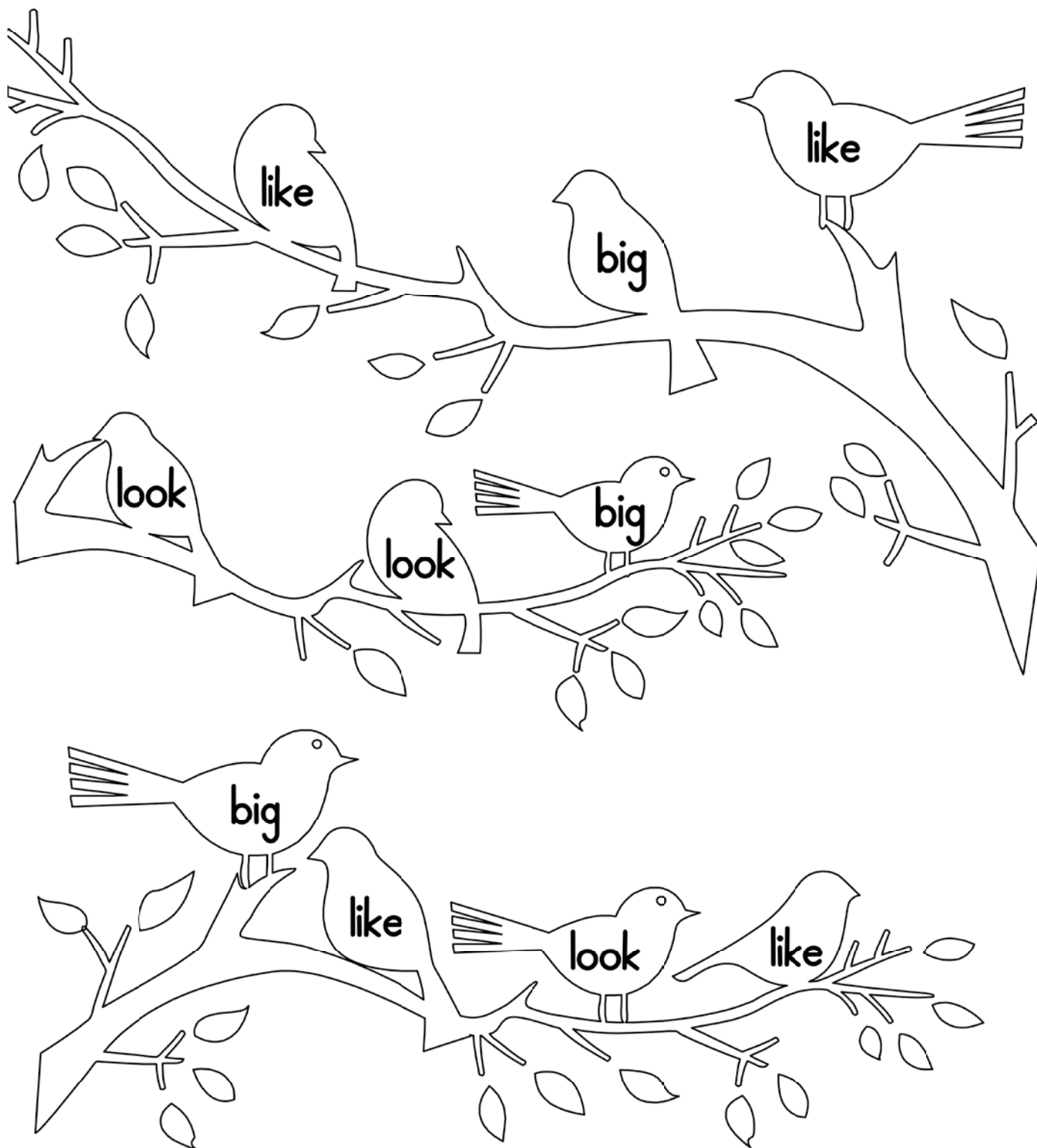
1. How will your animal prepare for the long winter?
2. Where will it sleep at night?
3. What is your animal's body covering?
4. How will it find food when the ground is covered with snow?
5. How will it protect itself from hungry predators?



Lily created a **Fluffy Fluffernutter**, a very furry, ground dwelling, hibernating mammal living deep in the forest. To survive the Ohio winter, **Fluffy Fluffernutters** eat a lot in the fall, dig a deep burrow, and grow a thick undercoat, before nodding off sometime before Thanksgiving.

name _____

Color coding: like = yellow look = blue big = red



Danny and the Little Bunny Mixed-Up Sentence and Story Hunts

Print out the Mixed-up Story Hunt word strips on the following pages and follow the instructions to make your activity. Template for the basket is on page 4.

This HUNT is based on the MaryRuth Books title, *Danny and the Little Bunny*. Make up additional HUNTS that you can do with the plastic eggs. Let the ideas below spark your imagination:

- ❖ Hunt for RHYMING WORDS
- ❖ Hunt for ALPHABET LETTERS or SOUNDS
- ❖ Hunt for PICTURE/WORD matches
- ❖ Hunt for a STORY – write and cut up your own, or use this one about Danny and a little bunny that he finds in his yard.
- ❖ Hunt for a SENTENCE – write and cut up your own, or use this one from the book, *Danny and the Little Bunny*.



Shout out to [Frugal Fun for Boys and Girls](#) for the inspiration. We adapted an idea from this clever blog and made it our own.

Danny and the Little Bunny *Mixed-up Story Hunt*

Level D / 78 words / fiction

Cut along dotted lines. > **Place** each strip in plastic egg. > **Hide** eggs. > **Find** eggs. > **Put** story in correct order.

A little bunny was hiding in the grass.

Danny looked at the little bunny.

Danny said, "Will you play with me, little bunny?"

The little bunny did not want to play with Danny.

The little bunny ran into a hole.

"Little bunny, little bunny, please come out and play with me," said Danny.

"Little bunny, little bunny," said Danny.

"I can see you down there. I want to play with you, little bunny."

"Here I come, little bunny."

Danny and the Little Bunny *Mixed-Up Sentence Hunt*

Level D / 78 words / fiction

Cut along dotted lines. > **Place** each piece in plastic egg. > **Hide** eggs. > **Find** eggs. > **Put** sentence in correct order.

"Little bunny,

little bunny,

please come out

and play with

me," said Danny.

Spring Basket Template

You will need: template, two 8.5 x 11" sheets of paper, scissors, stapler or tape

Cut out template along solid black lines. **Trace** pattern onto one sheet of 8.5 x 11" paper. **Cut** out traced shape. **Fold** along dotted lines. To make one side of the basket, **fold** up corners, tuck behind round flap, and **staple** or **tape** together. Do the same on the other side. **Cut** 11" strip from second sheet of paper. **Staple** or **tape** strip to each side to make a handle for the basket.

- Instead of using sheets of printer paper, consider using old newspapers or magazines, colorful construction paper, wrapping paper, or something else you would find around the house.
- This Spring Basket would be perfect to use with the **Danny and the Little Bunny Mixed-Up Story or Sentence Hunt!**