

# LESSON 18

## TEXAS ALMANAC TEACHERS GUIDE

### Wildlife in Texas

- *Texas' Threatened and Endangered Species*
- *Texas Wildlife*
- *National Wildlife Refuges*
- *Texas Wildlife Management Areas*

#### INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

- SPECIES CHART:** After reading information in the "Texas' Threatened and Endangered Species" section of the Texas Almanac, each student will select a species from either the threatened or the endangered category. Each student will utilize the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department website:

[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/wildlife\\_diversity/nongame/listed-species/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/wildlife_diversity/nongame/listed-species/)

for more information about their chosen animal or plant. A **class chart** will be constructed to record the threatened or endangered species information that each student has obtained. Students will **present evidence** to persuade the class that their species should remain on the state's threatened or endangered species list.

**SPECIES MASCOT:** Students will create a **mascot** for their chosen threatened or endangered species. The mascot should be drawn and named.

#### SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

4 - 9, 21, 22, 23

7 - 8, 21, 22, 23

8 - 10, 11, 29, 30

#### STAAR

4, 7 - Writing - 1, 2, 3

4, 7, 8 - Reading - 1, 2, 3

8 - Social Studies - 2



*Mule deer roam through Palo Duro Canyon State Park in the Panhandle. These deer are found mainly in the Trans-Pecos and the Panhandle. Above is a raccoon, which is found throughout Texas and is nocturnal.*





## LESSON 18 – Wildlife in Texas

**2. POSTAGE STAMP:** Students will create a **commemorative postage stamp** in recognition of a Texas threatened or endangered species using the “Texas’ Threatened and Endangered Species” section in the Texas Almanac.

**3. MAMMAL PRESENTATION:** Using information from the “Texas Wildlife” section, students will work individually or in groups to create a **presentation on Texas mammals**. Students will include:

- **illustrations** of several mammals
- **map locations** showing the range of their habitats
- **interesting facts** about each mammal chosen

The teacher will determine the most appropriate type of activity for the class presentations; i.e., poster, PowerPoint, report, or mini-scrapbook in Appendix.

**4. BROCHURE:** Working individually or in pairs, students will create a **travel brochure for one of the National Wildlife Refuges in Texas** (using the Texas Almanac’s “National Wildlife Refuges” section).

Using a Texas Counties Map in the Appendix, each student will locate the counties in which these wildlife refuges are located. Those counties should be shaded with map pencils, and a key for the wildlife refuges should be created.

Students should speculate as to why their particular refuge is located where it is. Then they should research to find additional information in other reference books, the Internet, or by writing to the individual wildlife refuge. Create a **class bulletin board** from the acquired materials or devise another method to share this information.

**5. DESCRIPTION:** Students should read the section about “Texas Wildlife Management Areas,” including the chart showing activities at each area and the map showing the locations.

Each student should choose one Wildlife Management Area of interest and **write a paragraph** to describe the location and the activities he or she can enjoy at the site.



*From top: The eastern fox squirrel is found in the eastern two-thirds of Texas, the black-tailed jack rabbit is found everywhere except the Big Thicket area of East Texas, and the coyote is found throughout the state.*