



## **Banff National Park – ESL**

### **Activity Seven: *Part A: A Wild Year***

### ***Prewatching Activity (Introductory Activity)***

#### ***A Wild Year: Study Background***

2012 will mark the 3rd year of remote camera wildlife monitoring in Banff National Park. Approximately 40 motion-activated cameras are mounted on trees or encased in rock cairns along hiking and game trails throughout the 6,500 km<sup>2</sup> park. Every time an animal or person passes the camera's infrared beam – click - an image is captured.

In comparison to traditional wildlife research techniques like radio-collaring, the “camera trap” is non-invasive and comparatively cheap. Researchers analyze the data using a method called occupancy modeling. Not only are some of the images of wildlife stunning, but tracking wildlife populations over the long term helps managers make decisions about issues like trail use, species reintroduction (e.g. caribou and bison) and prescribed fire.

These images offer a rare and privileged view of wild animals going about their everyday lives.

**CLB:** Two Versions - 2/3 and 4-7

**Topic:** Wildlife of the Park

**Goal:** Build awareness of animals in the Banff National Park and their habits

**Language Focus:** Reading, Writing, Speaking

**Material:** T/F Activity Sheet (Beginners) or Discussion Sheet (Intermediate/Advanced)

**Grouping:** Pairs

**Activity Outline:** Pairs will answer questions to prepare for *A Wild Year* video



## **Activity Seven: *Part B: A Wild Year Video*** ***(Introductory Activity)***

### ***A Wild Year: Video***

12 months. Four seasons. One revolution of the sun. In this short Wild Year video a year's worth of time-lapse images have been assembled from one single monitoring location in Banff National Park. Have a look – you'll be amazed by how much goes on. And it all happened a short two-and-a-half-hour stroll from the hustle and bustle of downtown Banff! It shows how alive the woods are and, if you get out for a hike, what you might be lucky enough to see!

### **CLB 2-7**

**Topic:** Wildlife of the Park

**Goal:** Build awareness and recognition of animals of the park and use vocabulary to describe these animals.

**Language Focus:** Speaking

**Material:** A Wild Year video <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9MiVWM3SZAY>;

Animal Body Part Cards from Activity Two (pictures only); set of 20 coloured squares of paper

**Grouping:** Small groups of 2-3

**Activity Outline:**

- 1) Have students answer the questions from either the Discussion Paper or True or False Paper.
  
- 2) Place one set of Animal Body Part cards on the table. Before beginning the activity, students watch the video once through to familiarize themselves with the video style as it is very quick. The students watch the video a second time and when they see the body part on the screen, they shout out the sighted body part and take that card. When a student shouts out the name of the animal they sight on the video, they also take a coloured square of paper. The aim is to collect as many cards and coloured squares as possible.
  
3. Look back at the discussion paper or True and False paper and see if predictions were correct or not – what was different than expected?

## A Wild Year: Discussion Paper

1. What animals do you expect to see in this video?

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2. Will the animals you listed in question #1 be traveling alone or in groups?

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3. What animals do you expect to see at night and which animals do you expect to see during the day?

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4. Once there is snow on the ground, are there animals you don't expect to see?

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5. Do you think that you will see two different kinds of animals together at the same time?

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6. Do you think that you will see the animals moving in the same direction on the video, will the direction change with the season, or will it be random movement?

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7. What do you think you will see animals doing in this video?

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8. Will you see anything other than animals in this video?

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## A Wild Year: True or False

1. You will see a bear. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
2. You will not see a polar bear. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
3. You will see groups of animals. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
4. You will see birds. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
5. You will see a cougar at night. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
6. You will always see a cougar alone. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
7. You will see many different animals. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
8. You will see two different types of animals together at the same time. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
9. You will see people and animals in this video. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
10. You will see the animals in this video change as winter comes. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
11. You will see the animals always moving in the same direction. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
12. You will see animals sleeping. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
13. You will see animals eating. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_
14. You will see animals fighting. T\_\_\_ F\_\_\_