



# Critter Characteristics & Habitats

Caution - Be careful not to harm any wildlife or their habitats.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Explore your outdoor classroom and look for an animal (wildlife). Complete the questions below to help you describe what type of animal it is and its habitat needs.

Use field identification guides like the National Audubon's *Field Guide to the Southeastern States*, the Alabama Wildlife Federation's *Wonders of Wildlife* webpages, and the *Outdoor Alabama's Watchable Wildlife* webpages to help you answer the questions, if needed.

## 1. Draw a picture of the animal.



## 2. What color(s) is it? \_\_\_\_\_

black blue brown gray green orange purple red yellow white









## 3. How many legs does it have? \_\_\_\_\_

zero two four six eight ten one hundred

## 4. Estimate how long (or tall) it is: \_\_\_\_\_ feet \_\_\_\_\_ inches



**5. Put a checkmark next to the feature(s) it has.**

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fur         | <input type="checkbox"/> Feathers  | <input type="checkbox"/> Thin Wings   | <input type="checkbox"/> Hard Covering  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hard Shell  | <input type="checkbox"/> Scales    | <input type="checkbox"/> Smooth Skin  | <input type="checkbox"/> Bristles       |

**6. What type of animal did you find?**

- bird    reptile    amphibian    mammal    insect    other invertebrate



**7. What type of "babies" does it have?**

- Live baby (not in egg) that looks similar to parent (*typically a mammal*)
- Hard-shelled eggs with babies that look similar to parent (*typically a bird or reptile*)
- "Soft" tiny eggs in water with larvae that change (morph) into adult (*amphibian or insect*)
- "Soft" tiny eggs on plants or in soil with larvae that change (morph) into adult (*insect*)

**8. What is the name of this animal?**

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**9. Where does this animal typically live? (you can choose more than one)**

- grassland    tundra    desert    woodland    meadow    wetland  
 creek    pond/lake    river    ocean    other: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Where did you find it in the outdoor classroom?**

- in the grass    on the ground    in the soil    in a tree or bush    in water or a pond    on a flower

**11. Describe its habitat needs including the specific food, water, shelter and places to raise its young it needs to survive:**

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