

GROUNDHOGS

A SCIENCE UNIT

The perfect unit
for February or
any time of year!



scroll
to take a
peek
inside

PRE-K 19 activities

Here is what is included:

- ✔ Lesson plans for a week
 - ✔ PowerPoints and printable posters
 - ✔ Teacher resources to make instruction easier
 - ✔ Life cycle posters and hat
 - ✔ Sensory bin and STEM activities
 - ✔ Adorable crafts and writing center
 - ✔ Emergent readers
- ...and SO much more!

Here is a Sneak Peak:



Engage your students in hands-on learning and exploration all about groundhogs!

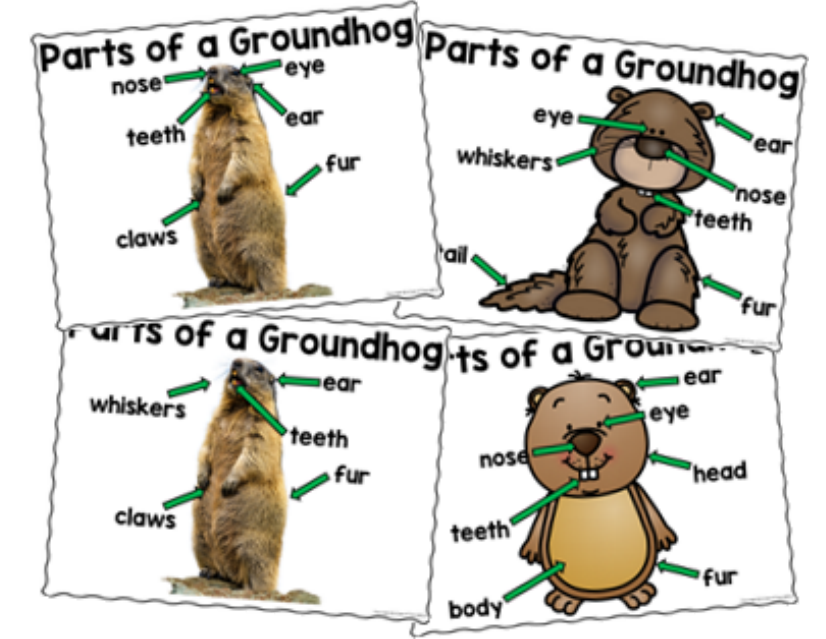
Take a Closer Look:



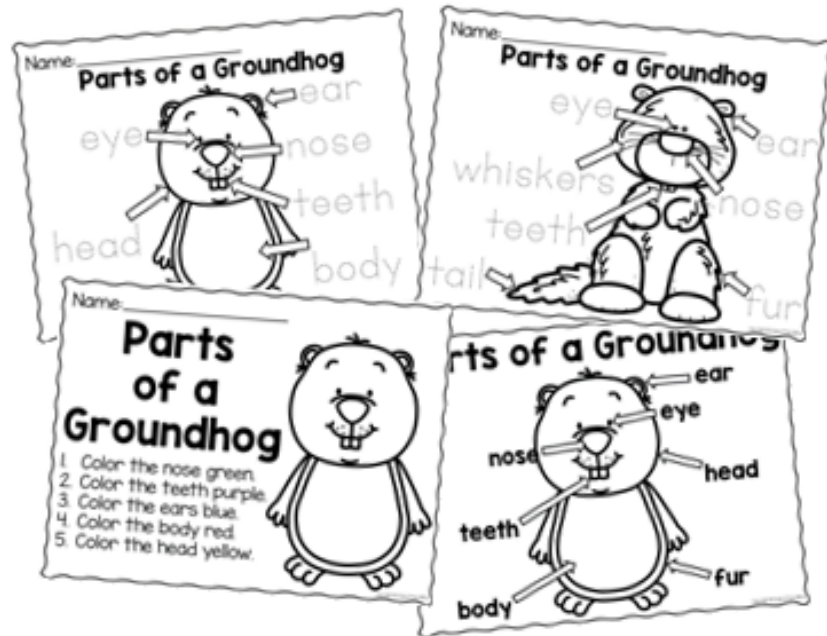
powerpoint



facts emergent reader



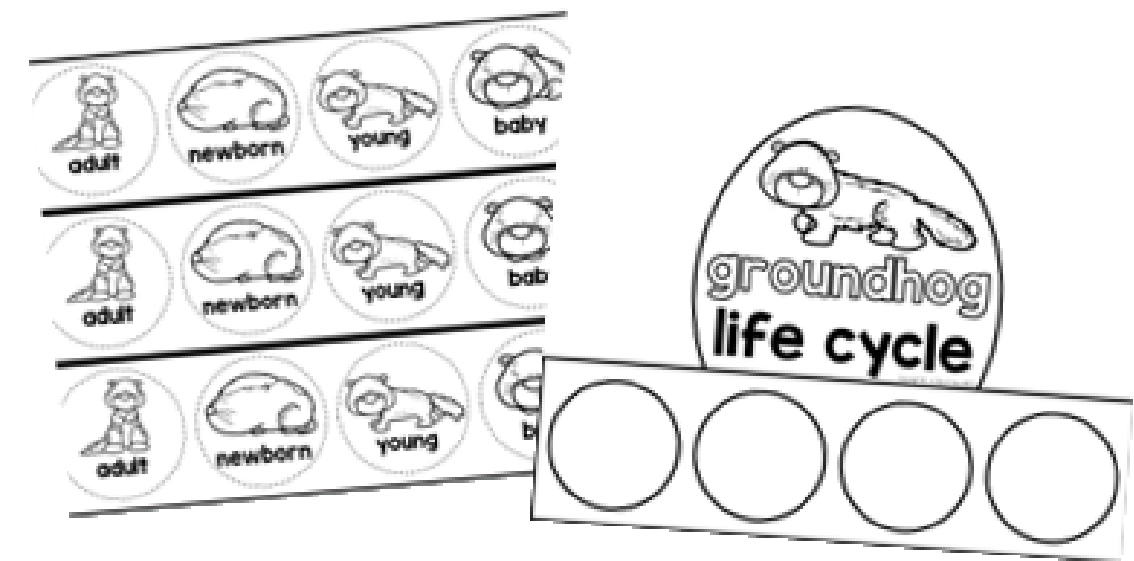
groundhog parts



parts worksheets



life cycle posters



life cycle hat

Take a Closer Look:

I'm a Little Groundhog
(sing to tune "I'm a Little Boy")

I'm a Little Groundhog Furry and brown,
(put hands around waist and lean down like you are small)
I live in a hole down in the ground!
(crouch down near the floor and point to the ground)

In February, I'll pop up above the ground,
Looking for my shadow all around!
(jump up and look all around)

I see my shadow so off I'll go,
(turn to see your shadow and pretend to run)
Back to bed for me, here comes more snow!
(place hands on side of head like sleeping)



fingerplay



groundhog craft

GROUNDHOG STEM 2 QUESTIONS

1. When we go outside, let's predict where our shadows will be.
**Morning-
Afternoon-**

2. Were we correct and why?
(position of sun)

3. AFTER drawing a Face on the ground, can you line up your shadow underneath so that your smiley Face is on the top of your shadow?

4. Talk about emotions that others have drawn on the ground *(happy, sad, mad, silly)*.

GROUNDHOG STEM 2
Drawing shadows with chalk. Little kids love sidewalk chalk. This fun activity helps your kiddos experiment with shadows while also teaching about emotions, spatial relationships, role playing and more!

YOU WILL NEED:
-Sidewalk chalk

DIRECTIONS:
While outside on a sunny day, have the kids draw a Funny Face on the ground. Then have them stand so that their shadow lines up with the face to identify emotions. This can be a challenge to line up their bodies so that their shadows fall correctly. They will learn about spatial relationships as they move around. You can also do this at various times of the day as the sun moves!


STEM centers

Animal Research

By:	Appearance
Habitat	

Groundhog Facts

- Groundhogs are herbivores.
- Groundhogs eat a lot before winter.
- Groundhogs hibernate in the winter.
- A groundhog's teeth never stop growing.



research craft

I'm a Little Groundhog

I'm a little g... n small

I'm a Little Groundhog

I am b... ave fur.

I am brown. I have fur.



emergent reader

GROUNDHOG bingo



bingo game

Take a Closer Look:



GROUNDHOG science

MATERIALS needed

- Groundhog books (see list)
- Construction paper
- Copy paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Stapler
- String
- Staples
- Stapler
- Staples
- Stapler
- Staples
- Sidewalk Chalk
- Paintbrushes
- Seasons
- Popcorn Sticks

M Monday **GROUNDHOG INTRODUCTION**
Read a nonfiction groundhog book.
-Introduce reader by completing the Groundhog Facts PowerPoint.
-Answer Question of the week: Will the groundhog see his shadow?
-Read and complete the Groundhog Emergent Reader.
-Each Day please see our selection of Reader scripts, books, and videos!

T Tuesday **PARTS OF A GROUNDHOG**
Read a nonfiction groundhog book.
-Using the Parts of a Groundhog poster, introduce the different parts that make up a groundhog.
-Complete Parts of a Groundhog Worksheet

W Wednesday **GROUNDHOG LIFE CYCLE**
Read a nonfiction groundhog book.
-Introduce the Groundhog Life Cycle poster.
-Make the Groundhog Life Cycle hat!

Th Thursday **GROUNDHOG FINGERPLAY AND CRAFT**
Read a nonfiction groundhog book.
-Sing the Fingerplay.
-Complete the Groundhog Craft!

F Friday **GROUNDHOG STEM CHALLENGE**
Read a nonfiction groundhog book.
-Review the Fingerplay.
-Complete one of the STEM activities.

lesson plans



science: **GROUNDHOGS**

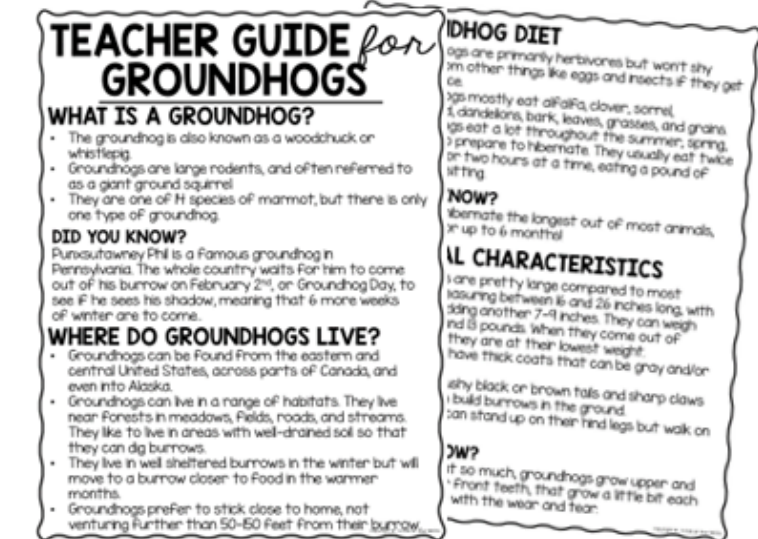
Dear Families,

We are learning All About Groundhogs in the classroom this week. We will be learning about where groundhogs live, what they eat, and what they can do. Ask your child to share groundhog facts with you this week!

At Home Activity:

To learn about Groundhogs at home - Check out Groundhog Weather School from your local library, watch it here on YouTube: [Groundhog Weather School Kid's Book Read Aloud Story Time Groundhog Day February 2 - YouTube](#), Or you can purchase it here on Amazon: [Groundhog Weather School: Fun Facts About Weather and Groundhogs: Holub, Joan, Sorra, Kristin: 9780147509451: Amazon.com: Books](#)

at-home letter



TEACHER GUIDE for GROUNDHOGS

WHAT IS A GROUNDHOG?

- The groundhog is also known as a woodchuck or whistling.
- Groundhogs are large rodents, and often referred to as a giant ground squirrel.
- They are one of 11 species of marmot, but there is only one type of groundhog.

DID YOU KNOW?

Punxsutawney Phil is a famous groundhog in Pennsylvania. The whole country waits for him to come out of his burrow on February 2nd, or Groundhog Day, to see if he sees his shadow, meaning that 6 more weeks of winter are to come.

WHERE DO GROUNDHOGS LIVE?

- Groundhogs can be found from the eastern and central United States, across parts of Canada, and even into Alaska.
- Groundhogs can live in a range of habitats. They live near forests in meadows, fields, roads, and streams. They like to live in areas with well-drained soil so that they can dig burrows.
- They live in well sheltered burrows in the winter but will move to a burrow closer to food in the warmer months.
- Groundhogs prefer to stay close to home, not venturing further than 50-60 feet from their burrow.

GROUNDHOG DIET

Groundhogs are primarily herbivores but won't shy from other things like eggs and insects if they get the chance.

They mostly eat alfalfa, clover, sorrel, dandelions, bark, leaves, grasses, and grains. They eat a lot throughout the summer, spring, and prepare to hibernate. They usually eat twice or two hours at a time, eating a pound of alfalfa.

NOW?

Groundhogs hibernate the longest out of most animals, for up to 6 months!

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Groundhogs are pretty large compared to most mammals, weighing between 6 and 26 inches long, with tails another 7-9 inches. They can weigh up to 15 pounds. When they come out of hibernation, they are at their lowest weight. They have thick coats that can be gray and/or black or brown tails and sharp claws. They build burrows in the ground and can stand up on their hind legs but walk on all fours.

TEETH?

Like all mammals, groundhogs grow upper and lower front teeth, that grow a little bit each year with the wear and tear.

teacher guide



SCIENCE CENTER for GROUNDHOGS

GETTING STARTED

Fill your center with lots of fun materials that your kids can use to investigate and explore groundhogs. Don't forget to include some books and vocabulary cards.

SHARING TIME

In a group setting of your choice ask, "Who were my scientists today?" At this time have those who went to the science center have a chance to tell the class what they discovered or observed and any questions they may have. We have a list of open-ended questions in this unit.

If a child makes an exciting discovery in the science center, they will surely want to share it with everyone, and it just can't wait! At this time, you can ask classmates to join you near the science center so your little scientist can share their findings and

ask them in just a short minute or two to come up with a sign or chant that notifies the scientist and also notifies the center. It can be as simple as a high five, thumbs up or a good job, Good Job Hey! It's enthusiasm in the science center that makes it so special.

science center



QUESTIONS TO ASK for GROUNDHOGS

SCIENCE talk

- Can you draw a picture of a groundhog and then label its parts?
- Why does a groundhog hibernate? How does it survive?
- What do you think a groundhog dreams about at night? Do you think they might be the same?
- How would you describe the hibernation?
- What do you remember about Groundhog's Day?
- Groundhogs are herbivores; they only eat plants. Can you create a menu for a groundhog or pictures of what they might eat?
- Would you like to hibernate during the cold weather?

How would you know _____?
Why do you think that _____?
What else might have caused _____?
How can you explain your findings? Recall in your own words.
How was it different than _____?
How will you know if _____?
Do you think you could _____?
How did you decide _____?
Can you tell me about that?
How does that work?
Can you draw me a picture of your findings?
What will happen if _____?
What do you think is most important?
What happened when _____?
What would you change if _____?
How is this similar to something else you know?
Can you think of another way _____?
Create a new solution.
How would you handle this problem/challenge/question?

science questions



GROUNDHOGS VIDEOS

To assist with the planning of your Groundhog Unit, we have curated a list of our favorite groundhog VIDEOS.

GROUNDHOGS: AN ANIMAL STUDY BOOKS

To help you with your planning of your Groundhog Unit, we have curated a list of our favorite Groundhog BOOKS.

Click anywhere on the page to be taken to our Amazon Favorites.

GROUNDHOG SONGS

To help you with your planning of your Groundhog Unit, we have curated a list of our favorite groundhog SONGS!

The Groundhog Song by Hoot Quarters
Groundhog Day Song by The Kiboomers
Happy Groundhog Day
It's Groundhog Day by Jack Hartmann

resource lists

Take a Closer Look:



definition posters



writing center



word wall

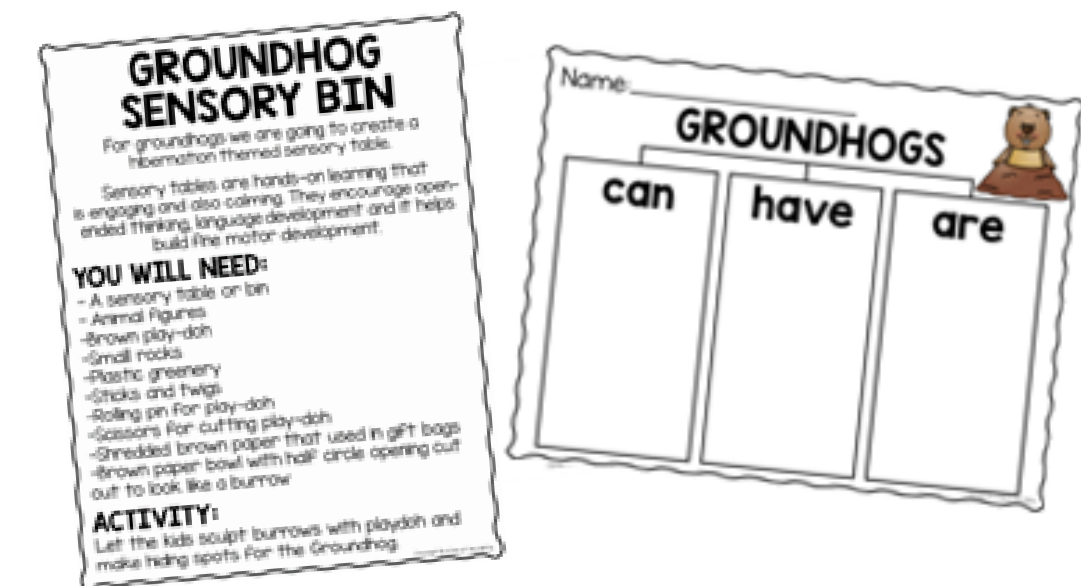


YES **NO**

weekly question



circle maps



and so much more!

Why Teachers LOVE it:



OPTIONS

- ✓ Variations for differentiating
- ✓ Printables in color and B&W



EASY TO USE

- ✓ Teacher Guide
- ✓ Lesson Plans
- ✓ Cross-curricular activities



ENGAGING

- ✓ Real Pictures
- ✓ Fun Crafts
- ✓ Hands-on Activities



What Teachers Are Saying



“This resource was a great one with little prep! My students enjoyed the activities in whole groups and Station based centers!”



“I love these units. The activity pages are engaging for students. The PowerPoints are helpful and I love the little readers!”



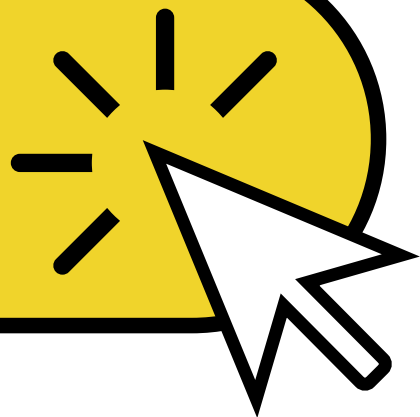
“This Groundhogs Unit was a great find. I was so happy to find this in time for Februrary!”



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ENDLESS SCIENCE mega bundle



meet the team

I'm Jennifer... I am the founder and creator of A Dab of Glue Will Do and Dollar Teachers Club. I taught Kindergarten and 1st grade. I have a stash of chocolate in my desk and a Starbucks tea in my hand to keep me going. I love reading and watching my kiddos play soccer and do taekwondo.

jennifer



Here at A Dab of Glue Will Do, our team makes the lives of busy teachers a little easier by creating meaningful classroom resources to engage, encourage, and meet the needs of their little learners.

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