Animals in Winter

Grade Levels: PreK–2

Program Description:
The world is very much alive in winter. We can learn about that life by following the tracks and signs of the animals around us. We will explore animal homes, food, signs, and various adaptations that animals use for surviving in the cold, snowy months. We will learn to recognize tracks and signs that tell a story about an animal’s life during this challenging season.

Massachusetts Curriculum Standards:

Pre-K: Life Science

<LS1. From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes>
PreK-LS1-1(MA). Compare, using descriptions and drawings, the external body parts of animals (including humans) and plants and explain functions of some of the observable body parts.

<LS2. Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics>
PreK-LS2-2(MA). Using evidence from the local environment, explain how familiar plants and animals meet their needs where they live.

Kindergarten: Life Science

<LS1. From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes>
K-LS1-1. Observe and communicate that animals (including humans) and plants need food, water, and air to survive. Animals get food from plants or other animals. Plants make their own food and need light to live and grow.

Grade 1: Life Science

<LS1. From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes>
1-LS1-1. Use evidence to explain that (a) different animals use their body parts and senses in different ways to see, hear, grasp objects, protect themselves, move from place to place, and seek, find, and take in food, water, and air.

<LS3. Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits>
1-LS3-1. Use information from observations (first-hand and from media) to identify similarities and differences among individual plants or animals of the same kind.
Grade 2: Life Science

LS2. Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics
2-LS2-3(MA). Develop and use models to compare how plants and animals depend on their surroundings and other living things to meet their needs in the places they live.

LS4. Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity
2-LS4-1. Use texts, media, or local environments to observe and compare (a) different kinds of living things in an area, and (b) differences in the kinds of living things living in different types of areas.