



Did you know that while you're asleep some members of the animal kingdom awaken and begin their day? There is a whole world of nighttime activity in the nocturnal world of animals, insects and plants. Complete four of the requirements to earn the Nocturnal In Nature Try-It. \*Must be completed.

8. *\*What is nocturnal?*

What is the definition of nocturnal? Visit your local library or use the Internet to identify nocturnal animals. With your group create a list of nocturnal animals, insects or plants that you might find in your area. Create a journal to record your findings, and to use for the completion of this Try-It.

9. *Navigation and adaptation.*

How do nocturnal animals navigate in the darkness to find food and shelter? How are they different from daytime animals? What adaptations have occurred that helps them cope in a world of darkness? Choose a nocturnal animal that interests you and role-play a "day in the life of" the animal you choose.

10. *Can you find them?*

Visit a nature center or wooded area and go on a hike at dusk to listen for the sounds of nocturnal animals. Keep a list of the animals you hear and identify. Share this information with other girls or your family. If you are lucky you may be able to see a nocturnal animal. Do not touch or disturb animals in nature! Draw or sketch a picture in your journal of a nocturnal animal.

11. *Habits and habitat.*

Where do nocturnal animals spend their days? How do they spend the day? What type of habitat do they use? Create a diorama of a habitat for a nocturnal animal; be sure to include a daytime habitat, nighttime feeding source and any other necessary requirements for the survival of the nocturnal animal you choose.

12. *What about me? Some insects are considered nocturnal and some plants only bloom at night.*

Why do some plants only bloom at night and how are they pollinated? Certain insects are active only at night. How do they all connect? Play a food chain web game and discover how all things are connected. What would happen if one food source or animal were removed from the web?

13. *Keeping safe.*

How do nocturnal animals, insects or flowers camouflage themselves? What defense mechanisms do they use for survival? Are any of the nocturnal animals you have on your list or in your journal an endangered species? What can you do to protect all animals from extinction? Brainstorm ideas with your group and present a skit for younger girls or your family.