



# Animal Track Identifier

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• Glue	1 bottle	2 bottles

## INSTRUCTIONS:

Each participant needs: 1 Cardboard Frame, 1 Popsicle Stick and 1 Animal Track Sticker Sheet. A bottle of glue has been included and you may want to dispense the glue into several little paper cups for easier access depending on your group size (each project requires just a few drops of glue).

Place the Cardboard Frame vertically in front of you. Using the stickers that show the images of the animals' footprint, adhere each of the 12 stickers to the frame so that the prints are facing forward. Note that the animal footprint stickers have little letters (A-L) and these letters should appear at the bottom of each sticker to ensure they are correctly oriented. The stickers may be placed in any order or location on the frame (you do not need to place them in alphabetical order).

Next, turn the frame over. On this side, adhere the stickers that contain the picture and name of each animal. The little letter should appear at the top of each of these stickers to ensure they are correctly oriented. Again, the stickers may be placed in any order or location on the frame. PLEASE NOTE: do not place a sticker in the bottom center area of the frame as that's where you are going to glue the popsicle stick "handle" in the next step.

Now that you have placed the stickers, write your name on the popsicle stick. Then, glue the popsicle stick to the bottom, center area of the frame. Give the glue enough time to dry before using your track identifier.

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## HOW TO USE THE ANIMAL TRACK IDENTIFIER

Frame out a track that you've discovered on the trail or in a sandbox. If you are lucky enough to have real tracks in your area, that's ideal. If not, instructors can leave tracks in dirt or in sand using animal track replicas (found at [nature-watch.com](http://nature-watch.com)) or through pictures of tracks such as those on our life size animal track poster.

Once you've found a track, use your identifier to frame it out. Observe what you are seeing within the frame and then try to compare that track to those pictured on the stickers. Remember that most tracks in nature are not complete so you will need to be a good detective. Once you've matched the real track to the sticker, see if you can figure out which animal it is. If you're not sure, that's ok! The little letters underneath the footprint image correspond to the stickers on the back which show the animals' pictures and names. (It's like having an answer key on the back!)

