

# SBnature FROM HOME

## ANIMAL CHARADES

Best for ages 5–10

Activity designed by Quasar Alvaro Vaca Mendoza



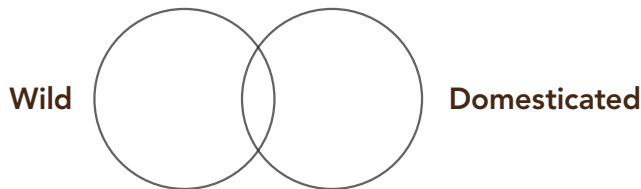
Pretend to be wild and domesticated animals in a game of charades. This activity gets kids to think about different types of animals—wild and domesticated—and what habitat they live in: natural, domestic, or both. Kids learn to connect that habitat with an animal's behavior. Kids also learn new vocabulary to describe animals that live in either a wild or domesticated habitat using a Venn diagram.

### What you need:

- Paper and something to write with
  - One large piece of paper for the whole group, or for each individual player
  - Small slips of paper for writing words, at least three times as many as players. So, if there are five players, there should be at least 15 small pieces of paper.
- Enough space to act out charades

### Steps:

1. Define the terms "wild" and "domesticated" as they relate to animals. Ask for examples of each. Do they act differently? How? Why?
2. Draw a Venn diagram on your large piece(s) of paper.



Are there any types of animals that could be both wild and domesticated? Write the names of those animals in the space where the two circles overlap.

3. Each player takes three small pieces of paper and writes a different animal on each piece, keeping the terms "wild" and "domesticated" in mind. The pieces can go in a bowl, a box, or a hat.
4. Take turns picking out a piece of paper at random and acting out the animal, highlighting things that show if it is domesticated or wild. Don't use words, but animal sounds and gibberish are OK. After the audience guesses the animal, decide which category the animal belongs to.
5. Follow the charades with a small discussion, interpreting the definitions of wildlife and domesticated animals. What do they have in common? How are they different? Bonus question: Are humans wild or domesticated? Why do you think so?

### What have we learned?

- ✓ Some animals live in the wild, and others live closely with humans. Some are even directly dependent on humans. Where an animal lives has a lot to do with how it behaves.
- ✓ Domesticated animals tend to behave in particular ways.
- ✓ Their behavior is useful, comforting, or fun for humans.

