



# Species on the Edge Contest Unit



Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ



# Day 1

Become a Biologist!

Select the best  
definition for the  
following questions!

(Don't worry if you have to make your best  
guess; by the end of the week, you'll know them  
all!)



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As you watch the video, pay special attention to important information you learn about food webs, food chains, producers, consumers, and decomposers.

Also think about this question: Is any one animal MORE important than others? Why or why not?

BrainPop Video:

[Click here to play the video](#)

# Food Chains

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# Day 2

Meet the Species on the Edge

Click to access the  
Contest Entry Form & Instructions  
&  
Rubric for Essay and Artwork

Now you know about the contest and have the list of **endangered animals** in front of you. How will your notes from last night and what you learned in the BrainPop video help you **explain the value of endangered species** in New Jersey?

How do animals become  
endangered? Extinct?

How do humans contribute  
to the issues that cause  
extinction?

Look at the list of endangered and threatened species in NJ in your contest packet.

Select some animals that interest you.

Search online for information about them. Then pick one animal on which you would like to base your essay and artwork.

Once you have selected your animal,  
look at the official entry rules section of  
your contest packet.

Select one of the three essay topics to  
write about your animal.

Using the pre-writing worksheet that matches your essay topic, begin researching and brainstorming.

Whatever is not finished on the worksheet by the end of the period will become homework.

# Homework

Complete your pre-writing worksheet.

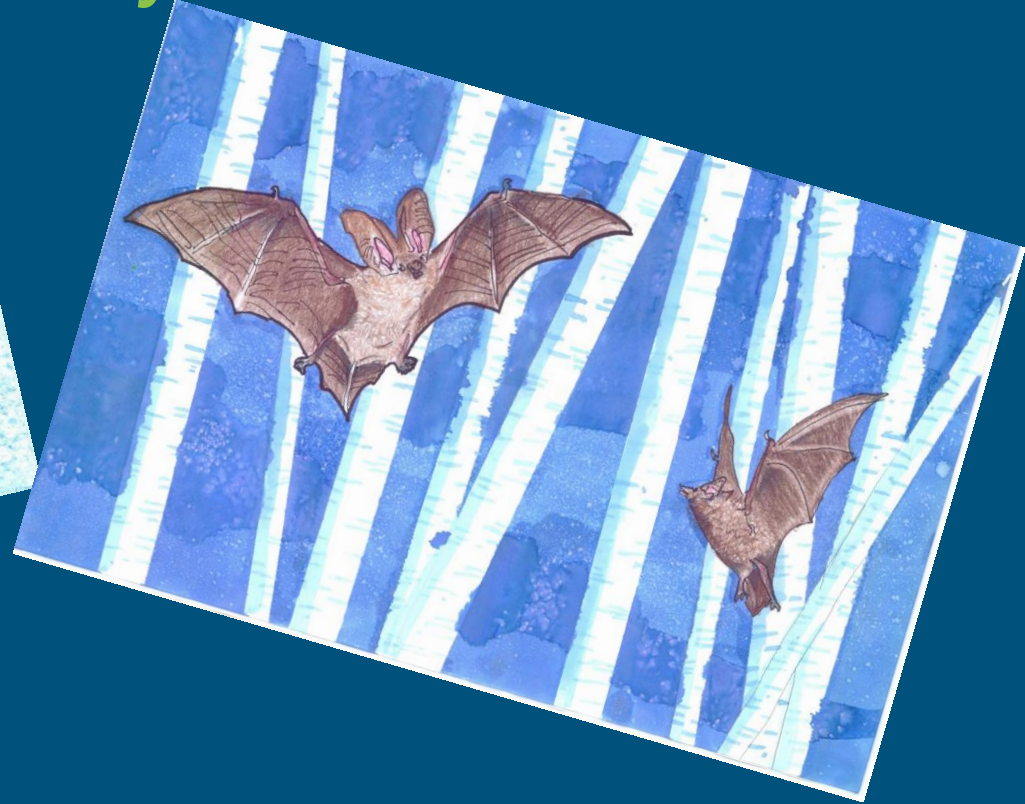
# Day 3

Writers to the Rescue!

Take out your pre-writing worksheet.  
Discuss the following questions with your partner:

Is your animal a consumer, producer, or decomposer? How would the rest of the food chain be affected if this animal went extinct?

# Rubric for Essay and Artwork





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# Homework

Complete at least half a page of your  
essay.

# Day 4

Revision and the “Art” of  
Conservation

# Rubric for Essay and Artwork



If you have finished a draft of your essay, you may begin creating the artwork to go with it!

# Homework

A completed draft of your essay will be due at the end of the period tomorrow. If you think you need to work on it tonight, you may do so.

# Day 5

What the Species on the  
Edge Need

Click here to access  
Kahoot!

# Complete your essay draft!

The final draft and completed art piece are due one week from today!