

# What in the Wild?

## A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

**Themes:** Animals, Habitats, Poetry

**Grade Level:** 3rd to 5th grade

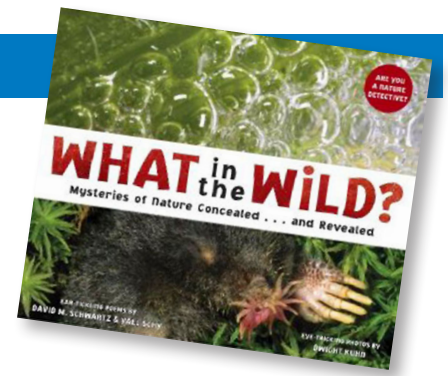
**Book Brief:** A mystery animal lurks behind each page. Use the accompanying poem to gather clues about what each animal might be!

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& Yael Schy

**Photographer:**

Dwight Kuhn



## TIME TO READ!

**Before reading:** Ask what the word *mystery* means. How do you solve a mystery? Explain that in this book, the authors use poems with clues to help us figure out the animal hiding underneath the next page.

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### SIMPLY SLIMY SNACK (AGES 5-12)

Ingredients per child: 1 pudding cup, 1 chocolate cookie or graham cracker, 1 gummy worm, spoon

Simulate a worm's environment you can eat! Open the pudding cup. Crumble the cookie on top for "dirt." Gently push the worm down into the dirt with the tip of the spoon. Dig in!

### TOSS IT! (AGES 5-12)

Materials: at least 2 paper balls per child, barrier

Objective: Clear your drey (squirrel home) of clutter so you won't have to move! Place children in two teams, one on each side of the barrier. Give teams two minutes to clear out their dreys by throwing the paper balls over the barrier. When time is up, the team with the fewest balls on their side wins.



### NATURE DETECTIVES (AGES 8-12)

Take a walk around the outside of your community center. What evidence of animals can you find in your area? Are there any signs of the animals from the book? Be sure to look for small clues as well as big ones. You may be surprised at what you find!

### TECHNOLOGY LINK

See firsthand how one man has turned collecting owl pellets into his own dirty job! [dsc.discovery.com/tv-shows/dirty-jobs/videos/owl-vomit-collector.htm](http://dsc.discovery.com/tv-shows/dirty-jobs/videos/owl-vomit-collector.htm)



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### OTHER BOOKS IN THIS SERIES

*Where in the Wild?* (2011), *Where Else in the Wild?* (2009).

### TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

[www.rif.org/kids](http://www.rif.org/kids)



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