

The Swamp

Swamps look like lakes, but they are much shallower. Trees and other plants grow right through the water. A swamp is teeming with life! Alligators lurk. Frogs hop from log to log. Birds fly overhead.

Arthropods: The Crayfish

The crayfish has a fairly complicated nervous system that helps it control movement as well as its senses. The system runs the entire length of the body with a ganglion, a small localized "brain," controlling each segment of the body. A collection of ganglions. The head region has many ganglions that control the others around the body.

The Carnival

Marcia looked forward to the carnival, but it was raining when she got there! The rides were closed. She played games instead. She tried to win a live fish. She won an ugly rubber frog instead.

Tracks

The Kroger kids lived on a remote homestead and walked several miles to get to and from school. Since the trip was so long, they often stopped to rest near a gorgeous waterfall. While resting one day, Andrew, the oldest, started making mountain lion tracks in the soft dirt. Using his knuckles, he created tracks that looked real. He got his little brother and sister to leave their footprints with the mountain lion "tracks" behind them. When the kids got home, they were shocked to find the whole town thought a real mountain lion was stalking the children.

Half Pipe!

The first skater, a boy of only eleven, stands on the coping and then blasts into the drop. He charges up the other side of the ramp, a huge sloping incline, and catches big air, more than three feet. Then he turns and blazes back in the pipe.

In the Garden

The cat crouched low to the ground. It was peering cautiously at the butterfly. The butterfly fluttered around the bush and landed on bright green leaves. The leaves ruffled in the wind, shimmering in the last light of the day.

Unsinkable Sam

In 1941, a British destroyer downed a German warship. British soldiers found a floating survivor in the wreckage. Scratching and clawing, a black and white cat they called Sam held on to a piece of debris, clinging to it for his life! Sam survived another exploding torpedo that killed the crew on the British ship. Later, this surviving cat got lucky again! He survived a third blistering attack, this time on an aircraft carrier. He was famous for living through these three devastating attacks!

Going for a Swim

My friends and I had grins on our faces. We stood at the edge of the pool. Without saying a word, we grabbed hands and blasted into the cool, crisp water. Around the edges, through the middle, and across the thrashing waves, we played like agile porpoises!

Lost and Found

Robbie and I had been walking for hours. An hour earlier, we had crossed a raging creek. Now, we weren't sure where we were! We looked at our map closely. We retraced our steps. Finally, after what seemed like forever, we figured out where we were. We'd been walking in circles!

While I was taking notes, I looked up to see the rest of our group just one hill over! Waving our arms and shouting, we got their attention. Now, we could hike out together. Next time, I won't get lost!

Moving Day

You're miles and miles from home, surrounded by a sea of boxes. Facing a wall of brown cardboard covered with strips of masking tape, you wonder if you will ever find your favorite stuffed animal again! The city where you lived was full of noises and people. Now you live in the country, surrounded by chirping crickets and freight train whistles. Then you see a neighbor coming toward you with not one, but two, ice-cold cherry popsicles. Maybe moving isn't so bad after all!

Sea Turtles' First Trip

Once in the spring, a female turtle lays more than a hundred eggs. While the eggs settle, she gently spoons sand over her nest. Meanwhile, the tiny turtles mature and prepare to hatch. Even though the turtles are tiny, soon they will begin their first journey, making their way to the sea.

Play Hockey!

Not only is hockey a fun sport to play, but it also helps you make friends for life. From scheduling schoolwork, chores at home, activities with friends, and skating, you will learn how to manage your time. Doing drills every day, you'll be in great shape and have lots of energy. Full of excitement, the game of hockey has thrilling moments like slipping the puck past the goalie after streaking up the ice or throwing up your glove to make a crucial save in goal. It's time to play hockey!

No Gum in School

Smack. Fwoosh. POP! Yuck! Gum everywhere! Is this what you want in school? Imagine big gobs of gum stuck under the desks, hanging from the outsides of trash cans, and clinging to the walls. Globbs of gum are gooey, unhealthy germ-carriers. Sure, it's fun to chew gum. But chew it at home—and keep it in your mouth. No gum in school!

States of Matter

Solid, liquid, and gas are all states of matter. A liquid has size and volume, but it does not have a definite shape. It changes to match the shape of its container. Air is made of gases. Water is a liquid. Gas is matter that has no size or shape. The helium in a floating balloon is a gas.

I Need a Cat

In conclusion, I need a cat. Cats do pretty well on their own, but they still are cuddly and sweet. With so many unwanted animals in shelters, adopting a cat means saving a life! A cat isn't just a great pet, it's a wonderful friend.