



Are You Sheepish?

Video #316

Developed for Grades: 2nd - 5th

The WOW videos have been developed to inspire students to learn more about **NGSS Life Science and/or Earth Science Disciplinary Core Ideas**. These could include:

- Plants and animals (including humans) can change their environment.
- Living things need water, air, and resources from the land.
- Humans use natural resources for everything they do.
- All organisms have internal and external structures that serve various functions in growth, survival, behavior and reproduction.
- Importance of ecosystems and habitats
- Cross cutting concepts like patterns, cause and effect, etc.

The WOW videos and their support documents can also be used with **English Language Arts**. Here are some ideas:

1. Select a few questions from the Know-It-All section and have students write their answers.
2. Have students write a story related to the topic. They could even add illustrations. For some grades students could read their stories and/or video tape their readings to share.
3. Students could write a poem, a play, or a song based on something in the video that created an emotional response for them.
4. Key words in the video can be used in creative writing assignments.
5. Older students could explore the difference in learning from video as opposed to a book. What are the advantages and disadvantages?



Answer Key for Know-It-All

1. **What makes a sheep a mammal?**
 - Mammals are warm-blooded (endothermic), have fur on at least part of their bodies, give birth to live young, and feed their babies milk.
2. **What were the three adaptations that sheep have that Natalie mentioned in her video? Can you think of any other adaptations sheep might have? Special behaviors can be adaptations, too!**
 - Natalie mentioned lanolin, wool, and eyes on the side. Other adaptations include but are not limited to: hooved feet for climbing, a four-chambered stomach for digesting fibrous foods, herding behavior to stay safe and they are diurnal (awake mainly during the day).
3. **What is your favorite sheep adaptation?**
 - Varies by student.
4. **What does the word insulation mean? What do you do to insulate yourself when you're cold?**
 - Insulation, such as wool, is any material that reduces the flow of heat. Some materials are better than others at this, and wool is one of the best sources of insulation among all animals. It slows the loss of body heat as well as the absorption of external temperatures like that of the sun on a hot day. People put on more clothes to increase their insulation - a behavior that is a very useful adaptation of ours!
5. **Why do you think sheep make good farm animals?**
 - Sheep provide wool, meat and milk for humans. They prefer to live close together in large groups which makes them easy to manage. They are insulated by their wool so they can survive in cold temperatures. They can eat a wide variety of plant matter.
6. **Most farm animals are prey animals. Why do we raise prey animals on the farm instead of predators?**
 - Prey animals do not have dangerous hunting tools. Most prefer to live in large groups and can be persuaded to move from place to place easily. Prey animals feel safe and calm when provided with the basics and a place to shelter at night.