



Leave No Trace: A Hiker's Promise

Video #339

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. B
2. Your opinion is up to you. However, most people would agree that having a visitor who tracks mud in the house or leaves a chair tipped over seems very disrespectful. You might not even want to invite them over again!
This is a small lesson on being considerate of others and of wildlife while out in the wilderness. If you choose to go off of a trail and accidentally crush some wildflowers, the next group of hikers will never get to enjoy their beauty. In addition, if you leave crumbs or trash on the ground, it could seriously hurt animals' stomachs that are not made to digest human food or litter (which may be eaten if it looks or smells like food).
3. "Take nothing but photos, leave nothing but footprints" is important because it improves the outdoor experience for those that visit after you, and maintains the healthy state of the ecosystem. If you come across a cool bone or a unique type of rock, it may be exciting for others to find as well - or it might be really important to local wildlife. We have a saying at Hidden Villa, that every natural thing outside is either somebody's home, or their food - or maybe both!
By taking a picture or drawing a picture, nature will continue to flourish and carry on after you leave. If everyone took just one item it could seriously impact the surrounding environment in a negative way because everything is connected to everything else!

