INTRODUCTION

Predators are wild animals that hunt, or prey on, other animals. Weasels, hawks, wolves, mountain lions, and grizzly bears are all predators. Are some insects predators? Yes! Some examples are praying mantis, spiders, and wasps. Prey is an animal that is hunted and killed by another for food. Prey can be as small as a fly to as large as a moose!

If possible, show the video with the fox hunting for food in Yellowstone. The file is on the thumbdrive. Additionally, you can show images of predators and prey and see if the students can tell which is which.

What body characteristics do predators have? *Sharp teeth, claws, eyes on the front of the head, ears tend to be low and flat on the head to avoid being damaged.*

What body characteristics do prey have? *Hooves, lack of sharp teeth and claws, eyes on side of head, large protruding ears like a deer or rabbit.*

(This link also has videos of predator prey relationships. The title may not be appropriate to show your students. http://io9.gizmodo.com/why-prey-animals-are-some-of-the-most-badass-creatures-1447763547 )

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

**Location**

Outside

**Materials**

notecards with animal sounds and other noises
blindfolds (2)

**Instructions**

Select one student to be a predator and one student to be the prey. Each will be blindfolded. Have the rest of the students create a large circle around the predator and prey. Give each of the students in the circle a notecard with a sound they will make when you point to them. The circle will also keep the predator and prey from wandering out of the circle. When everyone is in place, tell the predator to catch the prey. The prey will try to not be caught. For the first round, have everyone be quiet. In the second round, have the students in the surrounding circle make their noises. You can continue the game and replace the predator and prey as many times as you like.

SOUND OFF - Discussion

- What did you learn about predators and prey?
- What did you do to find your prey? *use hearing, moved as quietly as possible*
- What did you do to avoid the predator? *listened, stopped moving*
- What was it like to be the prey with noise?
- What was it like to be the predator with noise?
- How do you think noise affects wildlife?
Draw or write down some body characteristics of a PREDATOR (example: sharp teeth).

Draw or write down some body characteristics of a PREY (example: hooves).