

Mini 4-H
Wildlife
Manual
Division I



Parent's Page

As a Mini 4-H parent, your job will be to guide and encourage your child through the activity. We strongly recommend that you do not complete the activities for them. Instead, help them, guide them, work with them, and let them do all that they possibly can. The 4-H motto is "Learn by doing"...and is the best educational tool that we can provide for youth.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact your club leader or the Hancock County Cooperative Extension Service at 462-1113.

It is the policy of the Cooperative Extension Service that all persons shall have equal opportunity and access to its programs and facilities without regard to race, color, age, sex, religion, handicap, or national origin.

Mini 4-H

Welcome to Mini 4-H! You are now a member of the 4-H family. Mini 4-H'ers have lots of fun. There are many activities for you to explore. You can try new things. You can share it with your friends and family.

Mom or Dad or another adult can help you with your project, and you can bring your project to the 4-H fair. Many people will be able to see what you have done. You will receive a ribbon made just for Mini 4-H.

The 4-H fair is an exciting time for 4-H members and families. It is a week that allows community youth to show their talents, interests and enthusiasm for learning.

The 4-H Symbol: A four leaf clover with an H in each leaf

4-H Colors: Green and white

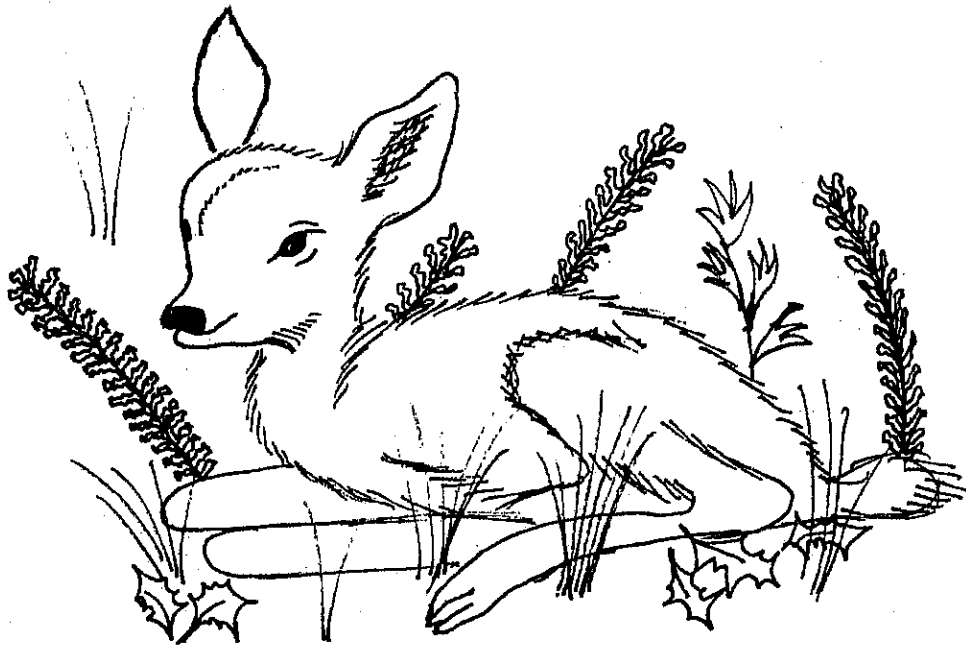
The 4-H Motto: To make the best, better.

The 4-H Pledge: I pledge my Head for clearer thinking,
my Heart for greater loyalty,
my Hands for larger service, and
my Health for better living,
in my club, my community,
my country, and my world.

Wildlife Division I - Kindergarten

This year in your Wildlife project you will learn about three animals: a cottontail rabbit, a robin, and frog. You will also choose two of these animals to color and mount on a poster for the fair.

The information in this book is only a beginning. There are many more exciting things that you can learn about these animals. You may want to visit the library and find some other books on animals, these books may have pictures to help you color the animals properly.

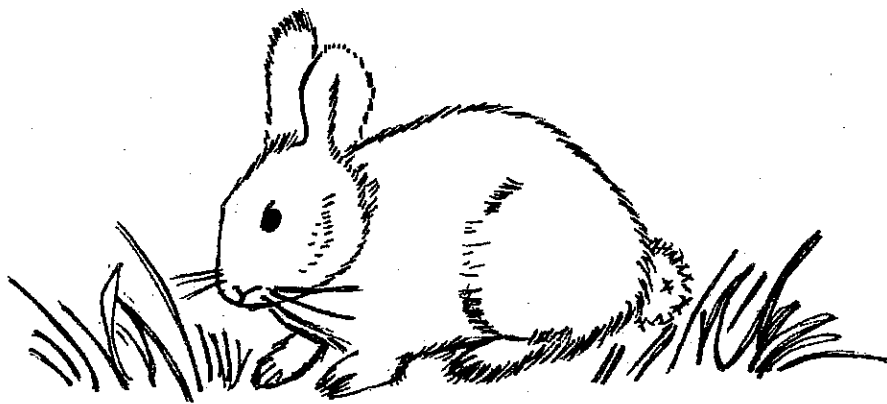


Cottontail Rabbit

Cottontail Rabbits are small brown or gray animals. They are about twelve inches long, weigh about five pounds, and have very soft fur. A Cottontail rabbit gets his name from his tail, which is normally white and looks like a little ball of cotton.

Rabbits love to hop, hop, hop. They do not walk or run; they use their strong, long back legs to hop. They use their short front legs to help keep their balance, just as you would use your arms if you played leap-frog.

Cottontail rabbits have excellent senses. They can hear well because of their large ears, they also have a good sense of smell that tells them if an enemy is near. A rabbit's eyes are on the side of his head, so he can see in front, sideways, or behind.



Cottontail rabbits live all over the United States and Canada in fields or under bushes. Rabbits don't dig their holes; instead they live in holes which other animals like a mole or groundhog have abandoned. The rabbit covers the entrance of the hole with grass or leaves or hides it under a bush. Only one rabbit or rabbit family lives in each hole.

A cottontail rabbit has about five babies at one time. The babies are called kittens. Kittens leave the nest when they are ten days to find their food. When they are six months old, they leave their mothers to start their own families.

Cottontail rabbits love to eat grass, weeds, or the vegetables in your garden. In the winter they eat fruit or tree bark. Rabbits like to sleep during the day and play and eat at night. Keep your eyes open, and look around in your yard. You might see a cottontail rabbit or his home.



Frogs

A frog is a small tail-less animal. He uses his long, strong back legs for jumping and his short front legs for balance. A frog can jump very, very far, about twenty times his body length. The web feet in his back legs make him an excellent swimmer.

Most frogs are green or brown. They have no neck and bulging eyes that help them see in any direction. They also have a long, sticky tongue that can move quickly to catch bugs. Frogs eat flies, spiders, and other insects all night long, and sleep during the day.



Mother frog lays small clear eggs in a pond or a lake. The eggs grow into a tadpole or pollywog which look like a fish. After the tadpole grows back legs, his small front legs grow, then his tail shrinks. When his legs are fully grown,

the frog hops out of the water, and starts jumping on dry land.

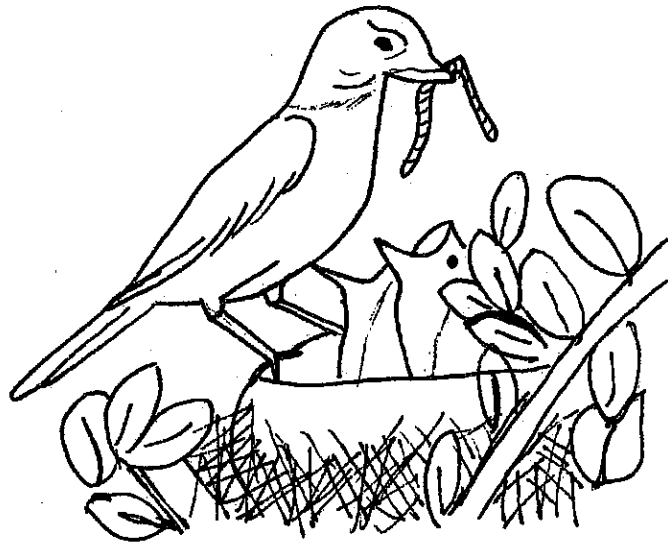
Frogs are cold blooded which means that they are the same temperature as the outside. They need to hibernate or sleep in the mud at the bottom of a pond or lake all winter long. Frogs are fun animals, and they help us by eating flies and mosquitoes.



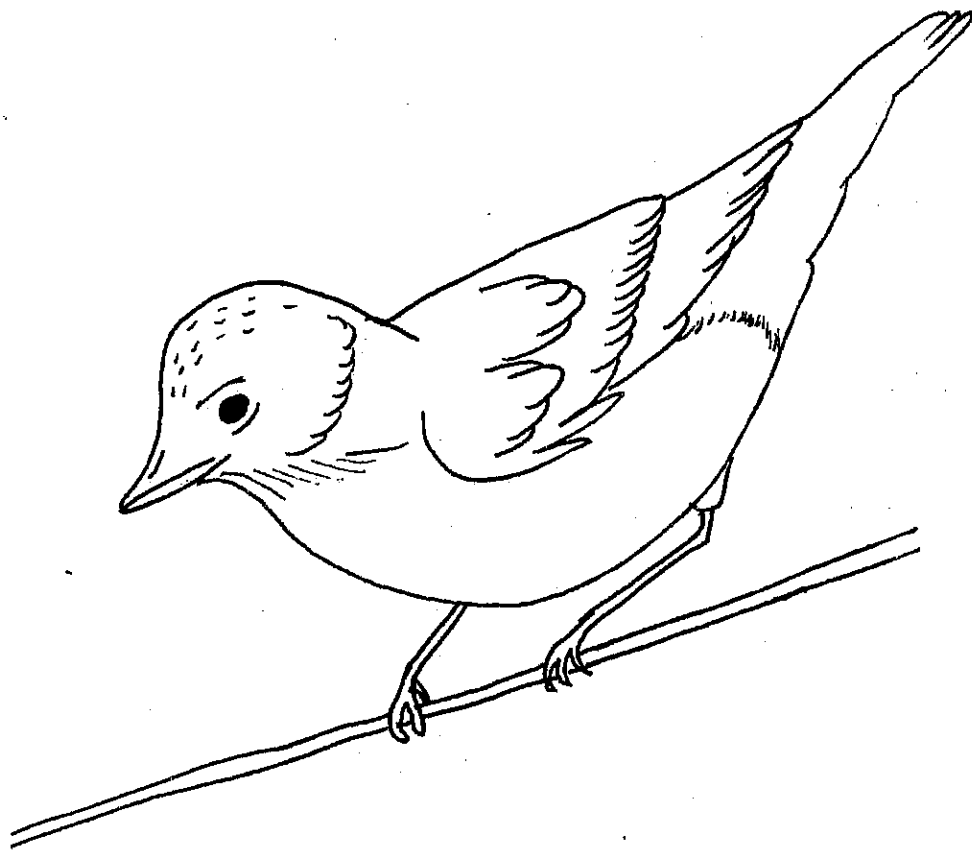
Robins

Robins are brownish gray birds with red tummies. They live in every part of the United States, even in Alaska. Robins like to live in wide open space around people. They build their nests in trees or on the ledges of barns or houses.

The mother robin makes her nest out of grass, twigs, rags, paper, and string. When she is finished, she lays three to six small blue eggs. When the little babies hatch, the daddy Robin feeds the babies. They like to eat fruit and insects, especially worms. When they are a little older, the babies will leave the nest and start a family of their own.



In the fall, Robins fly south where it is warmer. Some even fly as far south as Mexico. The Robin returns to his home early in the spring. He usually goes back to his old nest. Many people in Indiana say that when they see the first robin of the year that it is the beginning of spring.



We hope that you have had lots of fun this year in the Wildlife project, and will want to join us next year when we learn all about birds. If you have any questions, you can call the Hancock County Extension Office at (317) 462-1113.

Robin

Cottontail
Rabbit

Frog

<p>Mini 4-H Wildlife Division I - Kindergarten Name _____ Age _____</p>	<p>Mini 4-H Wildlife Division I - Kindergarten Name _____ Age _____</p>
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