TEACHER'S GUIDE

Listening activities and suggested answers

How do animals survive winter?

This version: English | Duration: 7:56 (about 8 min)

Completed versions: Finnish and English. Listening: use the episode recording supplied by the teacher. Public Spotify and YouTube episode links have not been verified for this material.

Introduce the questions before listening. Students write answers after the whole episode. Discuss their answers as a class or in pairs.

Suggested answers are in italics. Accept students' own wording when the meaning is correct.

1 Where do the squirrel and the bear store their winter food?

The squirrel hides food in caches, for example beside a tree root. The bear turns extra food into fat stored inside its own body and uses that energy during winter.

2 How does snow help a vole stay warm?

Air trapped in the snow provides insulation. The snow layer helps protect the vole near the ground from the bitter cold and wind above.

3 Why does the seal need a breathing hole, but the perch does not?

The seal has lungs and needs air from above the water. The perch's gills take oxygen dissolved in the water, so it does not need to come to the surface for a breath.

4 Draw the snow's secret

The aim is to connect the snow's shelter with the fox's hunt in one drawing. Show the snow surface, the vole's tunnel and the fox. Explain that snow insulates against the cold and the fox listens for prey moving below. Accept different layouts; students do not need to show an animal being caught.

Teaching tip: Ask students to point out what a person walking through the forest would not see. Assess the ideas and explanations, not drawing skill.