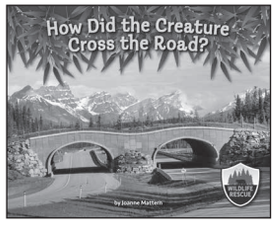
EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

Wildlife Rescue: *How Did the Creature Cross the Road?*

Series Overview

When humans build highways or clear land for development, they often put wildlife in danger. This series looks at unusual ways people around the world have come to the rescue of threatened species by providing safe ways to adapt to their changing habitats.



Lexile: 720 Words: 835

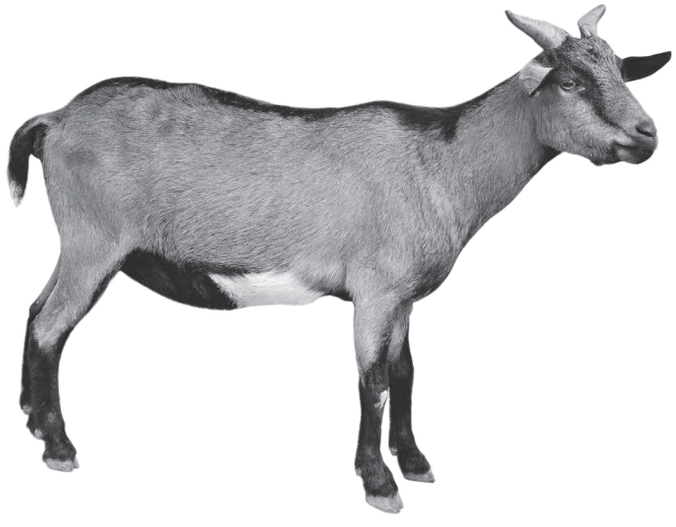
About This Book

This book explores the various thing people have made that allow animals to safely cross roads and dams, including roadway overpasses in Canada's Banff National Park, fish ladders and "salmon cannons" in the U.S. Pacific Northwest, tunnels for elephants in Kenya, and colorful crab bridges in Australia.

NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS ALIGNMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

The activities and learning ideas in this guide have been correlated with the **Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS): https://bit.ly/2kx58A2.**

This title most closely relates to the following standard: **Students can make a claim about the merit of a solution to a problem caused when the environment changes and the types of plants and animals that live there may change. (3-LS4-4)**



Before Reading

Crossing the Road:

Ask students to think about the things they do and the tools they use to help them safely cross the street. Write students' responses on the board, which may include: *looking both ways to see if cars are coming, holding a grown-up's hand, using crosswalks, looking at "Walk" and "Don't Walk" signals, and listening to crossing guards.*

Now ask students to imagine they are animals that don't know how to safely cross a road. They don't know how to look both ways, to use "Walk" and "Don't Walk" signals, etc. They don't know that they shouldn't cross highways and other busy roads. Tell students that every day, real animals get killed or hurt trying to cross roads or highways, which are often built in the middle of where the animals live. In this book, students will read about various ways people help animals safely cross roads.

During Reading

Check for Understanding: Ask students the following questions as they read:

- **pp. 4-7:** What are some reasons animals cross highways? (*to find food; to escape predators; to find other animals to mate with*)
- **pp. 8-15:** What did Parks Canada do to help animals safely cross highways in Banff National Park and other parts of the country? (*They built bridges, underpasses, and tunnels.*)
- **pp. 16-21:** What are some other animals that use manmade bridges and tunnels to safely cross roads? (*Elephants in Kenya; red crabs in Australia*)
- **pp. 22-25:** What are some things people have built to help fish cross dams? (*Fish ladders; salmon cannons*)

After Reading/Activity Introduction

Ask students to think about an animal in their neighborhood that might have trouble crossing a road, creek, or other place. What would they do or create to help this animal safely cross? Then have students complete the "Safe Crossings" worksheet.

ADDITIONAL ONLINE RESOURCES

- **Parks Canada:** https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/
- **Safe Travels (TIME For Kids:** https://www.timeforkids.com/g34/safe-travels/?rl=en-810
- **Christmas Island Crabs Get a Google Street View Upgrade (Kids News):** https://www.kidsnews.com.au/animals/christmas-island-crabs-get-a-google-street-view-upgrade/news-story/2de2e7bb1c5fefabc9283a04842bc8f3

VIDEOS

- **Making Roads Safer for Wildlife (NBC News Learn):** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4WK7KO4_4Sg
- **Tis the Season as Christmas Island Crabs Mass to Cross Bridge (RTÉ News):** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U6og2sLtceg
- **Meet the Salmon Canyon (EarthFixMedia):** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ShYsBiB7wlE

SAFE CROSSINGS

Think about an animal in your neighborhood and a place it may need to cross, such as a road, a creek, or a fence. Design a way to help this animal safely cross this place. Fill in the table below to help you.

Animal (Write its name and draw it)	Place it needs to cross	What you can make to help it cross	Materials you will need

Draw and color a picture of your design in the box below, labeling the important parts. You will have an opportunity to present it to the class!