

# Forest Friends in Winter

## Rabbits and Bears

### How Do Animals Spend the Winter ?

How do animals spend the winter ? ( Hibernate, Adapt or Migrate )

Winter is cold. There is snow on the ground. People live in warm houses. What do animals do?

#### Hibernate

Some animals sleep all winter - It is a very deep sleep called hibernation. They need little or no food. Groundhog, frogs, snakes and even some bugs hibernate. ( Read -Time to Sleep )

Animals that sleep most of the winter - bears

#### Adapt

Animals that adapt - Other animals stay active in the winter. It is hard for them to find food. They may live in holes in trees or under the ground to stay warm. Rabbits, deer, fox and squirrels stay active. ( Read - Tracks in the Snow )

#### Migrate

Some birds fly south for the winter. We call this migration. They go to a warmer place to find food. Other birds stay here all winter. We can help by feeding them. Birds that we see in the winter are chickadees, sparrows, blue jays and cardinals. ( Read - In the Snow by Denslow )

#### READ ALOUD

Tracks in the snow by Wong Herbert Yee (shows animals that adapt to winter conditions)

In the snow by Sharon Phillips Denslow (also shows animals that adapt to winter conditions )

A year of beasts by Ashley Wolff

The mitten by Jan Brett ( *with masks* )

Crinkleroot's Nature Almanac by Jim Arnosky

Time to sleep by Fleming ( hibernation story )

The bear snores on by Wilson

#### BIG BOOK

Sleepy bear (*talking about hibernation*)

The mitten by Jan Brett ( *with 8 animal masks to give children to act out story*)

#### BOOK TALK

Keep looking by Millicent Selsam (*has all the animals that would be around your house adapting to the winter*)

Annie and the wild animals by Jan Brett

In the snow: who's been here? by George (*great pictures of chipmunk, squirrel and porcupine*)

**MUSIC**

*Sleeping bunnies #12 Kathy Reid-Naiman “Tickles and Tunes”*

**Cottage in a wood - sing and do actions**

*In a cottage in a wood ( with fingers make a square in the air )*

*A little old man by the window stood ( make pretend glasses over eyes )*

*Saw a rabbit hopping by ( put two fingers up and pretend to hop )*

*Knocking at the door ( pretend to knock with fist )*

*Help me! help me! help me! she said( put hands up and down)*

*Or the hunter with shoot me dead ( pretend to shoot a gun)*

*Come little rabbit come with me ( motion to come )*

*Happy we will be ( pat hand back and forth )*

**FLANNEL BOARD AND RHYMES****Rabbit Rhymes**

**Here is a bunny** ( *with rabbit in the hat puppet* )

**Funny little snowman**

**See the little rabbit with his big long ears**

**There was a little rabbit who lived in the woods**

**Bear Rhymes**

**A bear likes honey**

**A little brown bear went in search for some honey**

**Here is a bear**

**Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear** ( *do with small bear puppet* )

**CIRCLE GAMES**

**1. Sleeping bunnies**

**2. Grizzly bear, oh grizzly bear is sleeping in his cave**

**Please be very quiet very, very quiet**

**If you wake him, if you shake him he'll get very mad**

**1. Children form a circle, one is the sleeping bear in the middle**

**2. Children walk around the bear, singing softly and tip toeing on 2<sup>nd</sup> line**

**3. Stop on the 3<sup>rd</sup> line and the “bear” wakes up and takes another child into the circle, who then becomes the “bear”**

**CRAFTS**

**Decorate a bear sleeping in his cave**

**Colour and put the animals in the mitten**