

## Lesson 2 – Using Guides and Animal Size to Teach Species Recognition

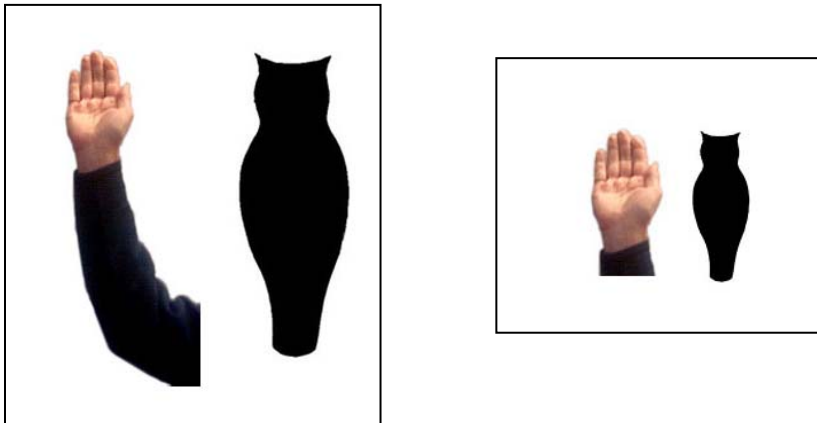
*Added Materials*

**Teacher note:** In all practice sessions, you will follow a strategy of “gradual release of responsibility” where you begin with “teacher models,” followed by “teacher and students do it together,” “students do it in small groups,” and finally “students do it independently or in partners.” The amount of time and number of examples needed at each step will be determined by the needs of your students. This will vary depending on their background knowledge.

### Field Guide and Measurements

#### *Supplement to Step 6*

- Print the K-6 Great-horned owl factsheet ([K-6\\_gr\\_horned\\_factsheet.pdf](#))
- Print the 7-7 Great-horned owl factsheet ([7-12\\_gr\\_horned\\_factsheet.pdf](#))



#### *Supplement to Step 8*

- Get deer and elk scat pictures ([elk\\_deer\\_porcupine\\_scat.pdf](#)), plastic models or actual scat– have students’ note and measure size difference – measure in inches or cm. Compare to the numbers given in a field guide.
  - You could copy off appropriate pages from a field guide for students to use in pairs.
- Model scat out of clay and tracks based on the size. (Great for your hands-on learners)

#### *Supplement to Step 10*

Teach students how to identify animals by tracks.

- Print ([tracking\\_tips.pdf](#)) and
- Pet measurements for a homework assignment ([pet\\_measurements.pdf](#))

#### Identification by Tracks

- Measure the Striped skunk tracks using rulers (K-3), tape measures (4-6), and calipers (7-8).

- Print (*skunk\_tracks.pdf*) and lay each sheet out overlapping when necessary. The page numbers are marked.
- Print the answer sheet (*skunk\_track\_answers.pdf*)
- Use (*Track patterns.pdf*) to understand different gaits and track sizes.
- Use the (*Tracking\_data\_collection\_form.pdf*) for your students to use for recording the skunk tracks. Make sure they complete the entire form.

## **Selecting a Nature Name**

### **Practice**

Use the generic list (*generic\_species\_list.pdf*) of common species found in most urban areas around the nation.