

## ETSU Eagle Cams – Learning Activities

### Bird and Animal Tracks

Grade: Pre-K

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ETSU Eagle Cams: <https://www.etsu.edu/cas/biology/eagle-cam/cameras.php>

#### *Summary*

What kinds of tracks do birds leave? Birds leave tracks just like humans leave tracks, but what do they look like? For this activity, students will explore their footprints and compare them to the footprints left behind by eagles or other birds/animals.

#### *Learning Objectives*

Students will recognize that birds leave behind certain markings or tracks.

Students will observe and describe the differences they see in the tracks in comparison to their own.

#### *Science Standards*

**PK.PS1.01** a. Describe and categorize objects based on their observable properties.

**PK.LS1.01** a. Identify common attributes of familiar living things.

#### *Materials*

- Paper
- Paint and Paint brushes
- Pictures of eagle tracks



#### *Preparation*

Consider reading books such as *Life-Sized Animal Tracks* by John Townsend. Have a classroom discussion about different tracks and point out any eagle tracks you see on the Eagle Camera.

### Part 1

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- Explain that many animals leave behind footprints or tracks. Have a discussion about different tracks and talk about how eagles leave prints just like humans do, they just look differently. Ask, “What other kinds of animals leave prints?”

### Part 2

- Have students paint their own foot and press onto paper to show them their footprint. There are many ways this could be done. If possible, have them paint both feet and walk on long paper so they can see the tracks they make. If paint is unavailable, you could also use a material such as chalk outside.

### Part 3

- Once students have made their own tracks, show them pictures of eagle footprints and compare them. Ask, “What difference do you see?” or “How are your tracks the same as the eagles?”

## **EXTENSION IDEAS**

- Have students create their own bird prints in the sand using their finger or a stick to draw the print in the sand.
- Show students a variety of bird prints and compare them. (Size, shape, etc.).
- Comparisons can also be made to the previously created footprints.
- Go on a bird print scavenger hunt where students will look for the pictures of the different bird prints and identify them along the way.
- Show students different photos of bird and eagle tracks to see which ones they can identify.