

Ages: 6 and up

Group Size: 6 or more

Materials: Wild life photos

Leave No Trace Objective: This activity will help participants understand the importance of keeping a safe distance from wildlife and a better understanding of the *Respect Wildlife* principle.

DIRECTIONS: This game needs a fairly large area to play, but may be played inside or out. Place wildlife posters either around a large room. If outside, the posters may be held by adults or carefully attached to posts, trees, etc., but careful not to damage trees.

Each participant practices the “rule of thumb” by distancing themselves far enough from “wildlife” so that if they cover one eye with one hand and with the other hand, stretch their arm all the way out in front of them with their thumb up and their thumb completely covers the wildlife in the poster. The “rule of thumb” is that you should be far enough away from wildlife not to disturb them. Respecting wildlife is the ability to have fun in the outdoors without disturbing wildlife.

After participants have gotten the idea of the game, then split the group into two and have the two groups separate from each other. Start with one group and have them pick their favorite wild animal (tigers, bears, wolves, etc.). The other group will use the rule of thumb to determine how far away they have to stay from the wild animals. After a few minutes, have them switch roles.

FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION:

Discuss how you can show respect for wildlife on a hike.

RULE OF THUMB

BIG FOOT BUCKET

