

Reading Animal Tracks

Elaboration 6 · First Nations knowledge of tracks

ELABORATION FOCUS

Investigating measurable attributes that First Nations Australians read in animal tracks — length, width and depth — to understand animal behaviour.

LEARNING INTENTION I can measure a track and say what it tells me.

Look closely

Measure it

Length

Width

Depth

1

Look at the Track

Step 1: find a clear track. Step 2: name what can be measured on it.

2

Measure Each Part

Step 3: measure length, width and depth. Step 4: use the same unit each time.

3

Compare and Explain

Step 5: compare two tracks. Step 6: say what the numbers tell you.

MODEL · COMPARING TWO ANIMAL TRACKS

Both tracks are measured in the same paper clips.

Each shape is one paper clip

Track A



4 clips

Track B



7 clips

Track B is longer · $7 - 4 = 3$ clips longer

Track B is 3 clips longer than Track A. A deeper track can mean a heavier animal.

TEACHER MODELLING ROUTINE

I do → We do → You do

WATCH FOR

Guessing depth by eye. Press a stick in and mark it, then compare the marks.

REMEMBER

Say it to students as: "The track tells a story if we measure it."

MATERIALS

Track cards or photos, paper clips, sand tray, sticks, recording sheets.

Cultural note: this track-reading context is a general teaching guide only. Please check with local First Nations community members and Elders before use. Skillr Education does not claim cultural authority.