

Adventures

Teacher's Guide

Ages: 5 to 9

Running time: 10:16

Marco, a baby racoon, slips away from home to explore the world around him. Children will love following his surprising encounters with other creatures, his comments on his surroundings and his sense of humour.

Pre-Viewing

Members of the group share what they know about raccoons.

Post-Viewing

Science

Describing animals in their environment.

- List the animals that appear in the film.
- What are the chief characteristics of racoons? Research their behaviour and eating habits.
- Discuss how you could domesticate a racoon. Would this be a good idea?
- Name some other animals in the same family as racoons. What is this family called?

Describing plants in their environment.

- Identify and describe the wildflowers found in the fields that Marco visits.

Language Arts

Developing oral and written communication.

- Describe some of the movements animals in the film make. Imitate these movements yourself.
- Write a dialogue between two creatures of familiar species that do not appear in the film.
- Write a brief informative essay on the habits of animals living in local forested areas.
- Write a script with an alternate ending for the film. Compare the different endings that members of the group come up with.
- Put together a "safety diary" written by a vacationing racoon.
- What do you think was in the note written by the crow, seeking help for the imprisoned racoon? Share orally or in writing.
- Write a report about Marco's adventures.
- Discuss the risks posed by keeping a trapped racoon in a lunchbox.

Drama

Individual improvisation on a theme.

- Imagine that you are caught in a trap and act out different ways to get free.

Improvising a dialogue or a story.

- Take on the characters of animals shown in the film and prepare a dialogue between two of them.

Visual Arts

Depicting humans and animals.

- Draw a racoon in the company of another animal.
- Draw yourself taking care of a racoon.