



## Rabies Prevention

## Poster Contest

### Information & Instructions for School Kids!!

#### Do you know what rabies is?

- It's a strange sickness that some animals can carry.
- Rabies is a sickness that only affects mammals.
- Mammals are animals that have hair, give birth to live young animals, and have mammary glands for making milk for their babies.
- Mammals include wild animals like foxes, skunks, raccoons, and bats.
- Birds and reptiles are not mammals. Remember, birds have feathers and reptiles have scales. So birds and reptiles cannot get rabies!
- Rabies makes wild animals act strangely, like they don't mind being near people or the animal might have trouble walking.
- If a bat is sick with rabies, it might not be able to fly and you could find one on the ground!
- Wild mammals that have rabies give this sickness to other animals and people by biting!!
- Rabies can make animals and people VERY sick--so sick that the animal dies.

#### Do you know which animals are most likely to have rabies in Arizona?

- Bats, skunks, and foxes.
- Bobcats and coyotes and also sometimes get sick with rabies.



**Do you know what to do if you see a wild animal?**

- Have fun watching it from the distance.
- Don't walk up to the wild animal or try to touch it.

**Do you know what to do if you see a bat at school?**

- Don't touch it!
- Go tell a teacher right away!

**Do you know how to keep your dog and cat safe from getting sick with rabies?**

- Taking your dog and cat to your veterinarian every year to make sure your pets are healthy is important.
- The veterinarian will make sure that your dog and cat are vaccinated for rabies, just like when you go to the doctor to get your shots!!

**So now we want you to draw something about what you've just learned! Your drawing must be original!**

**Here are some ideas:**

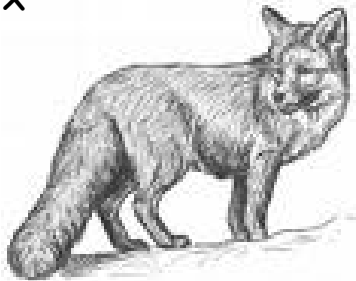
- Skunk



- Bat (mammal that can fly)



- Fox



- Cat holding a bat in its mouth



- dog on a leash

