



Telling Tales

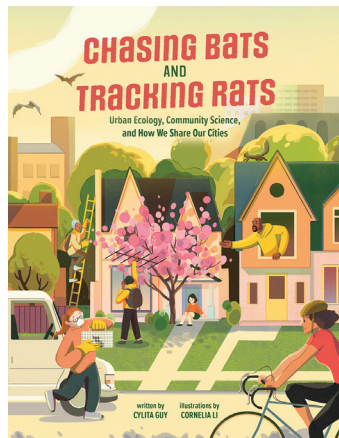
EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

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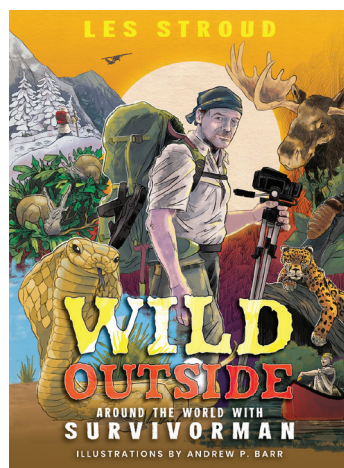
Our thanks to the following partners who made this program possible.



CHASING BATS AND TRACKING RATS: URBAN ECOLOGY, COMMUNITY SCIENCE, AND HOW WE SHARE OUR CITIES BY DR. CYLITA GUY

Ages: 8-12 | **October 2021**, Annick Press | ISBN: 9781773215396

Dr. Cylita Guy shows how studying urban wildlife can help us make cities around the world healthier for all of their inhabitants. In her video presentation, she encourages viewers to look for signs of wildlife in their own neighbourhoods.



WILD OUTSIDE: AROUND THE WORLD WITH SURVIVORMAN BY LES STROUD

Ages: 8-12 | 2021, Annick Press | ISBN: 9781773215075

Les Stroud is credited with creating the survival TV genre, and he remains a prolific artist focused on celebrating nature. In his video presentation, Les encourages viewers to explore the wilderness right in their own backyard.

Q./ Discussion: Why do you think Dr. Cylita Guy chose to study bats that live near her in the City of Toronto, rather than bats that live far away in a cave or in a remote forest?

Based on what you learned about them through their videos, what beliefs do Les Stroud and Dr. Guy share?

Activity: Become a Citizen Scientist!

1. Refer to the **Neighbourhood Bat Watch** and the **Nature Ontario Bat Guide** to learn a bit more about bat species, habitats and behaviour. If you prefer, choose another animal you are likely to see near where you live. Here are two helpful lists of animals that live in urban areas: **Wild Mammals in Toronto**, **RBG Turtle Guide** and a great interactive guide: **iNaturalist Website**.
2. Based on your research, answer the following questions together:
 - What species of bat (or other animal) are you most likely to see in your neighbourhood?
 - What time of day are you most likely to have a sighting?
 - Where are you most likely to see the animal you have chosen? Near trees? Near the tops of houses? Under a stairway, In a garbage dumpster?
3. Plan your own field study. Follow Les Stroud's **advice (p.3)** and prepare the gear you will need to explore your neighbourhood or nearby conservation area for bats, turtles, or any other kind of wildlife. Record your observations using Les Stroud's **Adventure Log (p.5)**.
4. Record your observations on the **iNaturalist Website** or on the **Neighbourhood Bat Watch** website.

Reflection: Which of your observations or research most surprised you? Do you believe you can play an important role in furthering scientists' understanding of our environment? Why or why not?

EXTENSION DISCUSSION FOR INTERMEDIATE/SENIOR STUDENTS:

Cylita Guy's TEDx Talk

Cylita Guy discusses how her research reveals social inequities and highlights the importance of equal and universal access to public green spaces.

As a class, discuss your reactions to her talk. Do you agree with the points she makes? Were any of her points surprising to you? Can you think of ways to apply her ideas in your community?



ACTIVITY SHEET



This is a decorative worksheet template. It features a border of stylized leaves and flowers. At the top left, the words "ACTIVITY SHEET" are written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the title is a large rectangular area defined by a dotted line, intended for a drawing. Underneath this dotted box are ten horizontal solid lines for writing. In the bottom left corner, there is a small illustration of a flower with a bee flying above it.

ACTIVITY SHEET

