

OUTDOOR DISCOVERY PROGRAM THIRD GRADE VOCABULARY LIST

1. **Axis** – The top and bottom center points (North Pole and South Pole) of the Earth.
2. **Rotation** – The Earth spinning on its *axis*. A day is one rotation of the Earth, approximately 24 hours.
3. **Orbit** – The Earth's movement around the Sun. A year is one complete *orbit* of the Earth around the Sun or approximately 365 days.
4. **Metamorphosis** – The process of changing stages in an insect's or frog's life cycle.
5. **Herbivore** – A plant-eating animal with flat teeth for grinding.
6. **Carnivore** – A meat-eating animal with sharp teeth for tearing.
7. **Omnivore** – Eats both plants, animals, and has sharp teeth in front and flat teeth in the back of the mouth.
8. **Scavenger** – Eats carrion which are animals already dead from other sources.
9. **Opportunistic** – Will eat anything it finds.
10. **Diurnal** – Alert, active, and feeds during the day.
11. **Nocturnal** – Alert, active, and feeds during the night.
12. **Crepuscular** (or twilight hours) - Alert, active, and feeds during dawn and dusk.
13. **Camouflage** – Colors or patterns that make an organism hard to see by others because of blending in with its surroundings.
14. **Echolocation** – Bats use it to send out a high-pitched sound that bounces back or echoes. Used to locate flying food.
15. **Olfactory** – Olfactory nerves are in the nose. The longer an animal's nose, the more olfactory nerves, giving them a better sense of smell.
16. **Adaptation** – A change in behavior, structure, or habitat of an organism that produces better adjustments to the environment, allowing it a better chance of survival.
17. **Cycle** – A series of events that lead back to the initial event.

18. **Reflect** – The turning back of a ray of light when it strikes then, bounces off of a shiny or light colored surface (mirror).
19. **Refract** – The bending of light as it passes through clear material (like water).
20. **Absorb** – The process of light being taken and retained by another matter (wood, water, etc.)