

NATURE ON THE MOVE was here today. Our topic was:

HIBERNATION

- Winter is a difficult season for wild animals. Missouri's wild animals have 3 choices: stay active, migrate, or hibernate.
- Hibernation means more than sleeping all winter. True hibernation means slowed breathing, slowed heart rate, and low body temperature.
- Some of Missouri's true hibernators include groundhogs, bats, reptiles, amphibians and some insects.
- While black bears do sleep for an extended period in the winter, they are not true hibernators. Their bodies do not experience the same changes as other hibernators.
- One reason that animals hibernate is that they are unable to find food such as insects, worms and nectar during the winter months.

Sung to Muffin Man: Do you know who hibernates? Hibernates, hibernates? Oh do you know who hibernates, it's...furry groundhogs. (Repeat with...slithering snakes, hopping green frogs, flying black bats, pretty ladybugs.)