

Nocturnal Navigation Answer Key

1. Owls and High Beam Headlights

Animal Card: Owls have excellent night vision due to their large, forward-facing eyes, which allow them better depth perception.

Driving Card: Drivers use high-beam headlights to illuminate the road and improve visibility on dark roads.

2. Bats and Navigation

Animal Card: Bats use echolocation to navigate and find prey.

Driving Card: Drivers must stay alert, look out, and be aware while navigating at night.

3. Cats and Reflective Road Signs

Animal Card: Cats have reflective eyes that help them see in low light.

Driving Card: Reflective road signs and markings help drivers see better at night.

4. Deer and Stay alert, Be aware

Animal Card: Deer are most active at dusk and dawn to avoid predators and reduce human interaction, feeding during cooler times

Driving Card: Drivers should stay alert for wildlife crossing the road, especially in wooded areas. Always scan the sides of the road for any movement that may be wildlife entering the roadway.

5. Fireflies and Vehicle Lights

Animal Card: Fireflies use bioluminescence to communicate and signal their intentions to others of their species in the darkness.

Driving Card: Drivers use turn signals and brake lights to communicate and signal their intentions to other drivers on the road.

6. Wolves and Driver Communication

Animal Card: Wolves howl as a form of long-distance communication to coordinate location during nighttime hunting.

Driving Card: CB radios and other devices are used by commercial drivers as a form of long-distance communication to stay in touch and share information about road conditions.

7. Foxes and Reduced Speed

Animal Card: Foxes avoid open spaces at night to reduce the risk of predators, sticking to cover where they are less visible.

Driving at Night: At night, visibility is low and reaction time can be slowed. Stick to well-lit roads and avoid speeding to reduce crash risk.

8. Crickets and Sounds

Animal Card: Crickets use chirping during the night to communicate so potential mates can locate them.

Driving Card: Drivers rely on auditory sounds such as horns and sirens, to communicate with other drivers and pedestrians when visibility is low, ensuring safety on the roads.

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9. Opossums and Nighttime Efficiency

Animal Card: Opossums are nocturnal and move around in darkness to avoid other wildlife and enhance hunting efficiency.

Driving Card: Big Rig drivers often work at night to avoid traffic and make deliveries more efficient on less congested roads. Give them room and stay out of their 'no zones'.

10. Leopards and Electric Vehicles

Animal Card: Predatory cats like leopards have padded feet to move silently through the night to avoid alerting their prey.

Driving Card: Electric vehicles (EVs) move more quietly than traditional engine vehicles, reducing noise pollution and providing a quieter driving experience.

11. Frogs and Nighttime Safety

Animal Card: Frogs and toads are more active during the night to stay safe and avoid daytime predators, using their croaking to attract mates.

Driving Card: Drivers use safety tips like not driving too late at night, carrying emergency kits, and telling someone their travel plans to stay safe while driving at night.

12. Skunks and Defensive Driving

Animal Card: Skunks are prepared to defend themselves if necessary, using their spray as a defense mechanism when threatened.

Driving Card: Defensive drivers should be prepared for any event, such as sudden stops, detours, or weather conditions.