



## ACTIVITY 11

### *Rank for Hank: Snakes, Other Cold-Blooded Creatures and Pesky Bugs*

**RANCH LIFE SERIES | BOOK 3 | RANCH WILDLIFE:**

Chapter 7, 8 & 9

**Content Area:**

Science & Social Studies

**Topic:**

Animals' Value to the Ecosystem and Economics of a Ranch

**Objective:**

Students will rank animals based on their value to the ecosystem (science) and economics (social studies) of a ranch.

**Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS):**

Science TEKS: 3.9A, 5.9A, 5.9C

Social Studies TEKS: 1.9B, 1.16B, 2.7A, 2.15B, 3.15E, 4.11B, 4.19B, 5.12B, 5.23B

\*Social Studies TEKS reflect the NEW Streamlined TEKS that will be implemented in elementary schools in the 2020-2021 school year.





## Rank for Hank: Snakes, Other Cold-Blooded Creatures and Pesky Bugs

**CONTENT AREA:** Science & Social Studies

**TOPIC:** Animals' Value to the Ecosystem and Economics of a Ranch

**ACTIVITY MATERIALS:**

- RANK FOR HANK DATA RECORDING SHEET (PAGE A11 - 3): 1 PER STUDENT OR STUDENT TABLE GROUP
- NOTES: RANK FOR HANK (PAGE A11 - 4): 1 PER STUDENT

**READING STRATEGY:**

- Review the terms “economic value” and “ecosystem value” with your students. Create a word wall or visual reference for students to refer to during the reading.
- The teacher can read aloud or have students read aloud with a group or partner. Every time you read something that has an animal gain or lose value (economic or in the ecosystem), write it down in your notes under that animal.

**ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Read the chapter aloud to your students, or have students read aloud in groups
2. Each student or student group needs a page to write down notes
3. As the teacher/student(s) reads, students record gains and losses of value for each animal on the ranch
4. Students may complete the BOTTOM LINE handout or move on to #5
5. Students will then use their notes to complete a bar graph giving value to each of the animals in the activity

**STUDENT SKILLS ASSESSMENT:**

- Have students (or student groups) complete THE BOTTOM LINE worksheet at the end of the activity.

# Rank for Hank: Snakes, Other Creatures and Pesky Bugs



## SECURITY BRIEFING –

### WORDS OF WISDOM FROM HANK THE COWDOG:

Have any of you cowpokes ever heard the term, “The only good snake is a dead snake.”? Give me a thumbs up if you agree with that bit of wisdom! Me and Slim argue about that all the time. He says you gotta figure out what kinda snake it is before you kill it because some of those slithery creatures do us some favors on the ranch. You did some research on lots of **animals** and it is time to see if you can figure out which ones can help our ranch and which ones can hurt our ranch. Let’s calculate their value! Each of these animals can add or subtract **value** to our ranch. All of the animals interact with the **environment** and a healthy ecosystem on the ranch means a healthy herd of cattle! Some of these animals can also cost Sally Mae and Loper a lot of money. That means the most important part of the ranch (me) might not get food in his bowl. It is time to figure out which animals are the **MOST** beneficial to the ranch. As Head of Security, it is important to know which animals for me to chase off and which ones I need to protect!

### ACTIVITY MATERIALS:

- RANK FOR HANK DATA RECORDING SHEET
- NOTES: RANK FOR HANK
- Insert page numbers of each activity page onto the “Game Materials” section of the Educator’s Guide Page

### ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Each student will need a RANK FOR HANK NOTES PAGE
2. Have students write notes on the value of each animal on the ranch. Values should be categorized into Economic Value and Value to the Ecosystem.
3. When students are done with their notes, they will fill in the RANK FOR HANK DATA RECORDING SHEET

### WRAP UP:

Fill out THE BOTTOM LINE worksheet after you have completed the activity.

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**USE RANK FOR HANK DATA RECORDING SHEET  
11X17 PAPER**

**AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD AT  
[RANGLIFELEARNING.COM](http://RANGLIFELEARNING.COM)**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### **RANK FOR HANK: NOTES PAGE**

DIRECTIONS: Use a + symbol in your notes to indicate that this is something that adds value. Use a - symbol to indicate this is something that decreases value.

Snakes	Value to the Ranch Ecosystem	Economic Value to the Ranch
Hog-Nose Snakes		
Bullsnakes		
Rattlesnakes		

Other Cold-Blooded Creatures	Value to the Ranch Ecosystem	Economic Value to the Ranch
Lizards		
Frogs		
Turtles		

Other Cold-Blooded Creatures	Value to the Ranch Ecosystem	Economic Value to the Ranch
Flies		
Mosquitoes		
Buffalo Gnats		
Yellowjacket Wasps		
Scorpions		



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## THE BOTTOM LINE

Each animal can add or subtract value to a ranch. Choose two animals that you think bring the most value to the ranch. Choose two animals that you think bring the least amount of value to a ranch. Justify your answers with reasons from your notes.

### MOST/LEAST VALUABLE ANIMALS ON A RANCH

<p>Circle the two animals you feel bring the <b>MOST</b> value to the ranch.</p> <p>Hog-Nose Snakes      Bullsnakes      Frogs</p> <p>Rattlesnakes      Yellowjacket Wasps                                  Flies</p> <p>Lizards      Turtles      Mosquitoes</p>	<p>Circle the two animals you feel bring the <b>LEAST</b> value to the ranch.</p> <p>Hog-Nose Snakes      Bullsnakes      Frogs</p> <p>Rattlesnakes      Yellowjacket Wasps                                  Flies</p> <p>Lizards      Turtles      Mosquitoes</p>
<p>I think that _____ bring the <b>MOST</b> value to the ranch because...</p>	<p>I think that _____ bring the <b>LEAST</b> value to the ranch because...</p>
<p>I think that _____ bring the <b>MOST</b> value to the ranch because...</p>	<p>I think that _____ bring the <b>LEAST</b> value to the ranch because...</p>