



## ACTIVITY 8

### *Rank for Hank: Dangerous Animals, Dogs Beware, Small Animals*



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

Chapters 4, 5, & 6

**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: Dangerous Animals, Dogs Beware, Small Animals

**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 A8 - 3): 1 PER STUDENT OR STUDENT TABLE GROUP
- NOTES: RANK FOR HANK (PAGE A8 - 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: Dangerous Animals, Dogs Beware, Small Animals



## **SECURITY BRIEFING –**

### **WORDS OF WISDOM FROM HANK THE COWDOG:**

*Well partners, this is Hank the Cowdog and I need your help. Sally Mae and Loper think we need to keep some **animals** on the ranch and frankly, this dog does not agree. You have read about coyotes, porcupines, and mice. Now it is time to calculate the **value** they bring to a ranch. Each of these animals can add or subtract value to our ranch. Now all of you know how I feel about coyotes, if it was up to me, I would never see one again! All of the animals interact with the **environment** and a healthy ecosystem on the ranch means a healthy herd of cattle! Each of these animals can also help Sally Mae and Loper put more money in their pockets, which means the Head of Security (that's me) might get an extra helping of dog food! You are going to help me 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 help my ranch!*

### **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.

*Rank for Hank: Dangerous Animals,  
Dogs Beware, Small Animals*



**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.

| <b>Dangerous Animals</b> | <b>Value to the Ranch Ecosystem</b> | <b>Economic Value to the Ranch</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Coyotes                  |                                     |                                    |
| Bobcats                  |                                     |                                    |
| Mountain Lions           |                                     |                                    |

| <b>Dogs Beware</b> | <b>Value to the Ranch Ecosystem</b> | <b>Economic Value to the Ranch</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Skunks             |                                     |                                    |
| Porcupines         |                                     |                                    |
| Raccoons           |                                     |                                    |

| <b>Small Animals</b> | <b>Value to the Ranch Ecosystem</b> | <b>Economic Value to the Ranch</b> |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Rodents              |                                     |                                    |
| Rabbits              |                                     |                                    |
| Prairie Dogs         |                                     |                                    |
| Owls                 |                                     |                                    |



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 MOST value to the ranch.</p> <p>Coyotes      Bobcats      Mountain Lions</p> <p>Skunks      Porcupines      Raccoons</p> <p>Rodents      Rabbits      Prairie Dogs</p> <p>Owls</p> | <p>Circle the two animals you feel bring the LEAST value to the ranch.</p> <p>Coyotes      Bobcats      Mountain Lions</p> <p>Skunks      Porcupines      Raccoons</p> <p>Rodents      Rabbits      Prairie Dogs</p> <p>Owls</p> |
| <p>I think that _____ bring the MOST value to the ranch because...</p>  | <p>I think that _____ bring the LEAST value to the ranch because...</p>  |
| <p>I think that _____ bring the MOST value to the ranch because...</p>  | <p>I think that _____ bring the LEAST value to the ranch because...</p>  |