



# ACTIVITY 9

## *Kill or Keep?*



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

Chapter 6 & 7

**Content Area**

Social Studies

**Topic**

Analyzing the impact of human modifications on the environment

**Objective**

Students will analyze whether to kill or keep different animals on a ranch.

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

K.4B, K.15, 1.5B, 1.15, 2.15B, 2.18, 3.14B, 3.17, 4.14B, 4.16, 5.8A, 5.23B, 5.26

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







## Kill or Keep?

**CONTENT AREA:** Social Studies

**TOPIC:** Analyzing the impact of human modifications on the environment

**ACTIVITY MATERIALS:**

- KILL OR KEEP CARD SORT (PAGE A9 - 4): 1 PER STUDENT OR STUDENT TABLE GROUP
- KILL OR KEEP SCENARIO (PAGE A9 - 3): 1 PER STUDENT TABLE GROUP

**READING STRATEGY:**

After the teacher or student finishes reading about each animal, the table group will debate on whether they should kill or keep the animal.

**ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. After the reading, students complete the card sort activity as a review of the animals on the ranch
2. Student groups will then be assigned to be a "Rodent" or a "Snake" group
3. Student groups will then write out two scenarios- a "kill" scenario and a "keep" scenario
4. Student groups will then take turns acting out their scenarios in front of their classmates
5. Teachers may have students act out both scenarios, or choose a card (kill or keep) and act out the scenario card they chose
6. Teachers may have the class guess on the animal they feel the group was using as an example in their scenario

**STUDENT SKILLS ASSESSMENT:**

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

# Kill or Keep?



## SECURITY BRIEFING –

### WORDS OF WISDOM FROM HANK THE COWDOG:

You partners ever heard of the saying “the only good snake is a dead snake,”? Well, I am the Cowdog responsible for that little gem. Unfortunately, Slim disagrees with me and so every time we see a snake, we have to check out what kind of snake it is before we decide if we are going to kill it or let it slither away. There are numerous types of snakes and some are **good**, and some are **bad**. The same goes for some of the rodents who crawl around our ranch. I am going to need your help in researching some of these **animals** to see if they are good or bad for a ranch and if we should keep them running around or get rid of them for good.

### ACTIVITY MATERIALS:

- KILL OR KEEP CARD SORT
- KILL OR KEEP SCENARIO
- Insert page numbers of each activity page onto the “Game Materials” section of the Educator’s Guide Page

### ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. After the reading, students complete the card sort activity as a review of the animals on the ranch
2. Student groups will then be assigned to be a “Rodent” or a “Snake” group
3. Student groups will then write out two scenarios- a “kill” scenario and a “keep” scenario
4. Student groups will then take turns acting out their scenarios in front of their classmates
5. Teachers may have students act out both scenarios, or choose a card (kill or keep) and act out the scenario card they chose
6. Teachers may have the class guess on the animal they feel the group was using as an example in their scenario

### WRAP UP:

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

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

**KILL OR KEEP SCENARIO**

**SNAKE OR RODENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANIMAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>KILL SCENARIO</b>	<b>KEEP SCENARIO</b>

## **KILL OR KEEP CARD SORT**

Teacher Instructions: Cut out the cards and use the gray Kill and Keep cards as your categories. Students will place each rodent and snake in the category they think they fit BEST based on the reading.

<b>KILL</b>	<b>KEEP</b>
<b>RODENTS</b>	<b>MICE</b>
<b>PACK RATS</b>	<b>HOG-NOSESNAKES</b>
<b>BULLSNAKES</b>	<b>RATTLESNAKES</b>

# Kill or Keep?



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

## THE BOTTOM LINE

Categorize these animals into the "kill" or "keep" category.

**RODENTS      MICE      PACK RATS      HOG-NOSE SNAKES**  
**BULLSNAKES      RATTLESNAKES**

<b>KILL</b>	<b>KEEP</b>

1. Which animal would you be most likely to kill? Explain.

2. Which animal would you be most likely to keep? Explain.