

# RESPECT WILDLIFE

## Beach Ball

### Purpose:

Help participants understand the importance of respecting wildlife.

### Supplies:

One blow up beach ball with questions related to this principle. Write the questions listed below on the ball. Write them going in different directions so it is easy to determine where a question starts and ends. Be sure to include the number so you can refer to the answer sheet if necessary. Up to 60 questions will fit on a 24" beach ball. Develop more questions that are more site specific for your area.

### Directions:

*"I am going to toss this ball out to you. I would like you to keep batting it around until I say STOP. The one holding the ball will tell me the number and read the question by their right thumb. You will then answer the question and we will discuss it. Okay, here we go.*

Toss the ball out to the participants. Stop it about every 4 to 5 hits and go through the question and answer process. You have the answers to the questions listed below for reference.

1: What does "Respect Wildlife" mean to you?

*Encourage several to respond.*

2: When do you know you are too close to wildlife?

*They change what they were doing?*

3: What are considered sensitive times for wildlife?

*Mating – Nesting – Raising Young – Winter*

4: Can we feed wildlife? Why?

*No. It causes them to change natural feeding habits.*

5: What problems can we cause for wildlife by feeding them?

*Damage their health – Alters Natural Behavior – Exposes Them to Predators.*

6: Is it okay to bury our leftover food? Why?

*No. Wildlife will smell it and dig it up. It can attract dangerous animals to our site.*

7: What should we do with our leftover food?

*Pack it out.*

8: Can food packaging cause problems for wildlife?

*Wildlife has been known to starve to death because they had packaging stuck over their heads or suffocated when they swallowed packaging that stuck in their throat.*

9: Name one way to keep your food away from wildlife. Explain how it work.

*Bear bag hanging between two trees.*

10. Is it okay to keep food or other smellables in a tent that is used for sleeping? Why?

*No. It can attract bears or other wildlife that can cause disease to humans.*

11: Is a bear canister effective for protecting your food? Why?

*Yes. Even if the critters smell the food they can't get at it.*

12: Is it okay to take pets on outdoor adventures with you? Why?

*It depends on what you do with the pets. You are in the "home" of wildlife and should protect them from your pet at all times. If you are not willing to control your pet at all times they should be left home.*

13: Is it against the law to take your pets outdoors with you?

*Not in most areas. But it is illegal in most areas to let them run free and it is illegal everywhere to let them chase wildlife.*

14: How far from your sleeping area should the kitchen area be when outdoors?

*At least 100 feet.*

15: How far from trees and the ground should a bear bag be hung?

*At least 4 feet away from tree trunks and 10 feet off the ground.*

16: Does it matter how close you camp to a water source? Why?

*Yes. If you camp too close it may keep wildlife from getting the water they need to sustain life.*

17: How far should you camp from any water source?

*At least 200 feet.*

18: Can human food cause problems for wildlife? If so, what problems?

*Yes. Tooth decay – gum infection – ulcers.*

19: Where can you observe wildlife without disturbing them?

*Anywhere when you are courteous to the wildlife and use binoculars, etc. to view them from a distance.*

20: Explain what actions you would take not to disturb a doe and fawn you see when hiking.

*Solicit several options.*