**Tracks!**

**Directions:** Copy the strips below onto card stock. Cut each strip into a puzzle of two or more pieces. Make the joining edges of each puzzle distinct from all others, perhaps using track shape as your guide. You may color figures and/or laminate puzzles for durability. You may include label cards for older children.
Directions: Create Animal Track Stencils using the images below. Make photocopies of each track. Cut out each set of tracks you wish to use onto card stock. Laminate for durability, if desired.

Heron
Stride: 8-10”
The tracks left by a walking heron follow a nearly straight line. Create this effect by stenciling a track, then flipping the stencil and stenciling the next 8-10” in front of the last.

Sparrow
Stride (or Hop): 2-6”
Sparrows typically hop when on the ground with both feet landing at the same time, side by side. This stencil already depicts a typical stride and trail width. Create a longer set of tracks by repeating the pattern.

Squirrel
Stride (or Bound): 6-30”
Squirrels typically bound when on the ground with both of their hind feet landing in front of their front feet. This stencil already depicts a typical trail width. Create a longer trail of tracks by repeating the pattern.

Rabbit
Stride (or Bound): 5-32”
Rabbits typically bound when on the ground with their hind feet landing in front of their front feet. This stencil already depicts a typical trail width. Create a longer trail of tracks by repeating the pattern.

Dog (above right)
Stride: varies with breed
Trail Width: varies with breed
Walking dogs and cats have similar trail patterns with tracks of back feet generally overlapping with tracks of front feet. Dog tracks are more highly variable in size and are most easily distinguished from cat tracks by the presence of claw marks.

Cat (below right)
Stride: 6-8”
Trail Width: 2-4.75”

Opossum
Stride: 6-10”
Trail Width: 4-5”
An opossum’s walking trail appears as a nearly single file line of tracks. (The width between outer toes should not exceed 5 inches.) Create this effect by stenciling a set of tracks, then flipping the stencil and stenciling the next set 6-10” in front and slightly to the right or left of the last.

Hind foot
Front foot
**Heron**  
Stride: 8-10”  
Tracks: typically bound on the ground with both hind feet landing in front of their front feet. This stencil already depicts a typical trail width. Create a larger set of tracks by repeating the pattern.

**Sparrow**  
Stride (or Hop): 2-6”  
Tracks: typically hop when on the ground with both feet landing at the same time, side by side. This stencil already depicts a typical stride and trail width. Create a longer set of tracks by repeating the pattern.

**Squirrel**  
Stride (or Bound): 6-30”  
Tracks: typically bound when on the ground with both hind feet landing in front of their front feet. This stencil already depicts a typical trail width. Create a larger set of tracks by repeating the pattern.

**Rabbits**  
Stride (or Bound): 5-32”  
Tracks: typically bound when on the ground with their hind feet landing in front of their front feet. This stencil already depicts a typical trail width. Create a larger set of tracks by repeating the pattern.

**Opossum**  
Stride: 6-10”  
Trail Width: 4-5”  
Tracks: appear as a nearly single file line of tracks. (The width between outer toes should not be more than 4-5 inches.) Create this effect by stenciling a set of tracks, then flipping the stencil and stenciling the next set 6-10” in front and slightly to the right or left of the last.

**Dog**  
Stride: varies with breed  
Trail Width: varies with breed  
Walking dogs and cats have similar trail patterns with tracks of back feet generally overlapping with tracks of front feet. Dog tracks are more highly variable in size and are most easily distinguished from cat tracks by the presence of claw marks.

**Cat**  
Stride: 6-8”  
Trail Width: 2-4.75”  
Tracks: appear as a single file line of tracks. (The width between outer toes should not be more than 4.75 inches.) Create this effect by stenciling a set of tracks, then flipping the stencil and stenciling the next set 6-8” in front and slightly to the right or left of the last.

---

**Directions:** Create **Animal Track Stencils** using the images below. Make a photocopy of each page. Cut out each set of tracks to make a separate stencil. You will likely want to cut off the text to simplify for student use. Copy each set of tracks you wish to use onto card stock. Laminate for durability, if desired.