

# The Amazing Snow Leopard: Ghost of the Mountains

## Materials You'll Need:

- White paper
- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers
- Pencil
- Optional: Modeling clay (white/grey)
- Access to internet for pictures/videos of snow leopards and their habitat (parental guidance)
- A simple "Snow Leopard Fact Sheet" (can be prepared beforehand or researched together)

## Lesson Activities:

### 1. Introduction: Meet the Mystery Cat (10 minutes)

Good morning, super scientist! Today, we're going on an adventure to the highest mountains in the world to learn about a very mysterious and beautiful animal. It's sometimes called the 'Ghost of the Mountains' because it's so good at hiding. Can you guess what it is? (Reveal picture of snow leopard if not guessed). What do you notice about it just from looking at this picture? What makes it look special?

### 2. Snow Leopard Detectives: Fact Finding (15-20 minutes)

Let's become snow leopard detectives! We'll use our Snow Leopard Fact Sheet (or look up some facts together online). We want to find out:

- **Where do they live?** (Discuss: Himalayas, cold, snowy, rocky mountains).
- **What helps them survive there? (Adaptations):**
  - Think about their fur – why is it so thick and what color is it? (Warmth, camouflage).
  - Look at their paws – why are they so big? (Like snowshoes, good grip on rocks).
  - What about their long, fluffy tail? What could that be for? (Balance, warmth when wrapped around their body).
  - Are they good jumpers? (Powerful legs for leaping across rocky terrain).
- **What do they eat?** (Blue sheep, ibex).
- **Are there many snow leopards in the world?** (Discuss endangerment: habitat loss, poaching).

Discussion: Which adaptation do you think is the coolest or most important for a snow leopard? Why?

### 3. Creative Corner Part 1: My Super Snow Leopard (20-25 minutes)

Now that we're snow leopard experts, it's time to get creative!

**Activity:** On your white paper, draw a snow leopard in its mountain habitat. Try to show off at least two of its amazing adaptations we talked about. For example, is it camouflaged against the snowy rocks? Is it using its long tail for balance as it leaps? Is it wrapped in its tail to keep warm? Be as detailed as you like!

*Optional:* If you have modeling clay, you can try sculpting your own snow leopard!

#### 4. Creative Corner Part 2: Snow Leopard Story Time (15-20 minutes)

Every snow leopard has a story! Now it's your turn to tell Gne.

**Activity:** Let's write a short story (or you can tell it out loud, and I can help write it down, or you can draw it like a comic strip). Your story could be about:

- A day in the life of a snow leopard. What does it see, do, and eat?
- An adventure of a young snow leopard cub exploring its mountain home.
- You as a scientist secretly observing a snow leopard in the wild.

Try to include some of the facts we learned about snow leopards in your story (like its habitat, what it eats, or one of its cool adaptations).

#### 5. Conservation Champions (10 minutes)

We learned that snow leopards are endangered, which means they need our help.

**Discussion:** Why is it important to protect snow leopards and other animals? What do you think are some of the reasons they are in trouble? (Habitat loss, not enough food, people hunting them).

Even learning about them and telling others how amazing they are helps! When people know about these animals, they care more about protecting them. What's one thing you could tell a friend about snow leopards to make them interested?

#### 6. Show and Tell: Our Snow Leopard Creations (5-10 minutes)

Let's share our amazing snow leopard drawings and stories!

**Reflection:**

- What was the most interesting thing you learned about snow leopards today?
- If you could ask a snow leopard one question, what would it be?
- Which adaptation do you find most fascinating?

Great job today, snow leopard expert! You used your creativity and curiosity to learn so much!