

RACCOONS REST



Temperatures are dropping, and that means many animals are preparing for winter and cold temperatures. Raccoons are eating more to gain an extra layer of fat for the winter's cold. They will add up to one-third of their body weight in order to keep warm. They don't fully hibernate, but they do find a winter den and will rest for up to a month in a mock hibernation. Dens can be anything from holes in trees, to small crawl spaces under houses or underground burrows. By the end of winter, they will lose about 50% of their body weight.

Make a newspaper raccoon

Materials: Newspaper, black paper, paper for background, glue, scissors, googly eyes (optional)

Directions:

1. Pick a fun paper color or color a white piece of paper for the background.
2. Using newspaper: cut out a half circle for the body, a teardrop shape for the head, a long football for the tail, and 2 triangles for the ears.
3. Attach the newspaper pieces as shown in the picture.
4. Cut out 4 black strips. Attach 3 to the tail for stripes and one as the "eye mask".
5. Cut out black triangles for the inner ears.
6. Attach googly eyes or draw out eyes on white paper
7. Cut a black circle for the nose and attach to the pointy part of the head.