

# Color Of The Prairie

**Grade:** Kindergarten

**Length:** 20 minutes

## South Dakota Content Standards

- ◆ Kindergarten Life Science: Students will recognize similarities and differences in diverse species.
- ◆ Kindergarten Life Science: Students will compare size, shape, and structure of living things.

## Objectives

Name prairie animals.

Describe some characteristics of prairie animals.

## Primary Theme

Studying and restoring the mixed grass prairie ecosystem and humans' relationship to it will help us understand the changing grassland ecology of the Midwest, and ensure the protection of this fragile and remarkably diverse ecosystem.

## Materials

- ◆ Coloring Page (page 9 in this packet)
- ◆ Crayons

**Procedure**

1. Hand out the coloring sheets to the students.
2. Have the students color the picture.
3. Ask the students questions about the prairie. Include specific questions about the animals shown in the picture.

Sample Questions

- a. What animals live in the prairie?
- b. What does the bison eat?
- c. Where does the prairie dog live?
- d. How does the bison stay warm in the winter?
- e. Who else shown in the picture might live in where the prairie dogs do?
- f. What types of plants might you find on the prairie?

**Extension**

Take a field trip to Badlands National Park or conduct a virtual visit with the *Views of the National Parks* program.

