



Ted Alejandro, County Superintendent

San Bernardino County  
Superintendent of Schools  
*Transforming lives through educ*



**Tuesday, June 30**  
**12:00pm**

**Nature, "The Mighty Weasel"**  
**4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades.**

Discover the truth about the infamous weasel, often associated with unsavory behavior. Do these critters deserve their bad reputation? Follow the adventures of a first-time weasel mom, fearless honey badger and a tiny orphan weasel.

**After watching this episode, choose from the following questions and/or tasks to extend your learning**

**Question Box 1**

- How many different species of mustelids are there?
- Where can they be found?
- Make a list of animals that are in the weasel family.
- Describe "Weasel Town".
- The honey badger is described to have "brains and brawn". What are some of this animal's challenges living in the African Bush? And how does it overcome these challenges?
- How does Dr. Natalia Borrego study the Honey badgers' intelligence? Describe the three tests she conducts.
- What is the most valuable skill/trait of the mustelid family? Describe how this ability works?

**Question Box 2**

- Think about the babies in this episode, the stoat and the ferret. How important it is to have family to take care of you when you are very young?
- What was the most interesting thing you learned about the animals discussed? Why?
- What about the show intrigued you?
- What was the most interesting part of the show?
- Do weasels deserve their bad reputation? Why or why not?
- What did you find most surprising about weasels?

**Box 3 (Tasks)**

- Compare and contrast the largest otter and smallest weasel.
- Stoat... ferret... martin... badger... weasel... or a wolverine. Describe why each of these animals are in the weasel family.
- Research the habitat of the weasel.

***Continued on the next page...***



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### **Box 4 (Enrichment)**

Think Like an Animal Observer:

- Think like and watch the video and record behaviors and attributes that are evidence that mustelids are remarkable animals.
- [The Weasel Family is Fierce! | Natural World: Weasels | BBC Earth](#)
- Take a two-minute video of your pet without them knowing it.
- Watch your video like an animal observer, record evidence that shows your pet is remarkable too.

### **Box 5 (Extend/Real-Life)**

- What does the saying mean “weasel out of anything”? Write a narrative story about a time when this saying applied to you. Be sure to use the phrase somewhere in your story.
- What kind of careers are available working with wild animals? Read the article below for some ideas. <https://www.trade-schools.net/articles/wildlife-jobs>  
Would you enjoy one of these jobs?