

Situational Awareness

“The Lookout”



On Guard for Hazards

Story Points

- From across the Savannah a shout could be heard that took 20 minutes for the safari group to find. In the tree was the baboon, the guard for the troop...the family grazing below, and a hazard had been spied. The shout was the call to safety, the call to be alert, the call to follow the safety plan. This baboon, this lookout, must remain situationally aware and focus on survival of those around. Risk assessment is continuous and requires heightened senses for detecting predators.

Learning Points

- The baboons realize the importance of having a lookout...do we?
- They know there is a need to assess risk continuously...do we?
- The one on guard must always remain attentive and never drift off...do we?
- Being the lookout to warn others about hazards is important to survival.

Conversation/Activity

- Share, “What does situational awareness mean to us?”
- Why does the baboon go up the tree? What does an effective warning sound like?
- Share stories : focus on lookout and role (self, one for many, some for all)
- How do the animals know that the look-out role is important? What are the attributes of a guard?
- Bridge to lookout behaviors at work. Who is our lookout?

Options, Comments & Ideas

- As a species, we assume our worlds are safe; is that a true assumption? Who is looking out for our safety in this meeting, right now?
- Why would a person chose to be a lookout for a group?