

BIRDS OF THE WETLAND

SUMMARY

This program is intended to exhibit examples of food, water, shelter, and space on a walking tour of the wetland. The students will learn about different ways the wetland provides these services for the birds that inhabit it and how animals needs closely resemble our own.

GRADE LEVEL: K

ACTIVITY DURATION: 45 min Hike, 15 min coloring activity

SETTING: Outdoors, along trail system surrounding the wetland. Classroom craft activity following hike.

NGSS: K-LS1-1, K-ES3-1

Common Core: SL.K.5

Subject Areas: Independent relationships in ecosystems: Animals, Plants, and their Environment.

OBJECTIVES: This program uses movement, sound, mimicry, real-life examples, and art to introduce students to habitat. By the end of the program students should be able to:

- Define simple bird related vocabulary
- Name and identify three common wetland birds by sight and sound
- Describe at least one, and up to 4, habitat needs a bird must have to survive
- Craft a common wetland bird using its distinctive colors and patterns.

COOPERATIVE APPROACH: This programs works great with the *Cave Boat Tour* by providing an alternate environment to compare to the wetland. in addition, by walking the other trails, students can apply what the learn during the program by identifying food, water, shelter, and space in other areas of the park.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: Students will learn that humans and animals have certain needs in common. Food, water, shelter, and space are needed to survive and used the same way by both humans and animals.

ALTERATIONS:

GRADES ABOVE KINDERGARTEN

Without changes, this program may not reach the expectations of the knowledge base for grades levels above kindergarten. Therefore, to provide Grades 1-12 with the *Bird of the Wetland* program, guides will incorporate more in-depth information at each stop.

It is recommended that one of the STEM extensions also be applied.

It is also suggested that the interactive movements not be employed with students older than 2nd grade.

EXTENSIONS:

The *Bird of the Wetland* program can be extended into a longer program in which principles of STEM, higher order thinking like applying and creating are applied. Such extensions can include:

STEM

-Add a *Model Water Shed, How Wetlands Work, and/or Water Quality Parameters*, where students investigate the cleaning power of a wetland to improve the quality of the water.

-Adding a study where the weather conditions of different habitats are collected and analyzed to determine why there is a difference in the biodiversity characteristic of each area.

VOCABULARY: Crystal, Igneous, Rock, Gemstone, Metamorphic, Rock Cycle, Geologist, Mineral, Geology, Sedimentary