



Frisch's Outreach: Habitat, Sweet Habitat (Pre-K, K) Extensions

At a glance

Students will begin to have an understanding about animals and their habitats.

Goals

Students will begin to understand that animals find their survival needs within their habitat.

Theme

Every living thing needs to have food, water, shelter, and space to survive.

Objectives

1. Students will be able to name four basic needs for survival – food, water, shelter, and space.
2. Students will be able to define a habitat as an animal's home.
3. Students will be able to observe visiting classroom animals and discover their particular needs for survival.
4. Students will be able to observe visiting classroom animals and discover their habitat .
5. Students will tell how that habitat provides the animals with food, water, shelter, and space

Sub-themes

Animals will find their unique needs for food, water, shelter, and space within their particular habitats.

Academic standards

Benchmarks for Science Literacy (Project 2061)	Science Literacy Diversity of Life 5A/P1 Interdependence of Life 5D/P1, 5D/P2 Evolution of Life 5F/P1
Ohio Science Academic Content Standards	Diversity & Interdependence of Life 5,6 Doing Scientific Inquiry 4 Scientific Ways of Knowing 3
Kentucky Core Content—	Life Science-Primary - Grade Four Characteristics of an Organism SC-E-3.1.2 Organisms & Their Environments SC-E-3.3.2

Background

All living things have basic needs for survival. Food, water, shelter, and space are vital for their existence.

Wild animals secure these needs for themselves. They do so by using their unique adaptations (body parts or behaviors) within the environment. Animals are uniquely suited to the areas in which they live. They can survive only in areas where their particular food, water requirement, shelter, and appropriate space needs are met. Areas that fill those needs thereby enabling the animals to survive are called their habitats. Like our human homes, habitats provide everything that an animal needs to live.

Habitats are as diverse as the animals that live in them allowing for a natural balance in our world.

Vocabulary

adaptation (n) the development of physical and behavioral characteristics that allow organisms to survive and reproduce in their habitats

community (n) a group of people who live in the same area, or the area in which they live

habitat (n) the natural conditions and environment in which a plant or animal lives

shelter (n) structure or building that provides cover from weather or protection against danger

space (n) room to fit or accommodate something or somebody

survive (v) not die or disappear; able to live or function

Extensions

Habitat Under Construction!

Have the students make a mural on an empty wall at school or on butcher paper. Challenge them to choose a habitat and depict the different characteristics as well as the varying animals found there.

Guess My Habitat!

Invite the students to either cut pictures of animals out of a magazine or draw animals. Encourage the students to name its habitat. Can they name a body

part/adaptation that helped them decide which Habitat the animal lived in? Can they name another animal that lives in this habitat?

Take a Hike!

Take a hike around the school or neighboring area and explore your habitat. Which habitat do you live in? What animals did you see? How did you decide which habitat is yours?

Listen Up!

Go outside and sit quietly with your eyes closed! What do you hear in your habitat? Each time you hear a different sound put up one finger in the air! Each time you hear a new sound raise a finger. How many different things did you hear in your habitat? How many sounds were made by animals? How many sounds were made by people? Can you make a graph showing what you heard?

Resources

Books:

Bowden, Marcia. Nature for the Very Young: a Handbook for Indoor and Outdoor Activities. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 1989.

Chalufloor, I & Worth, K. Discovering Nature With Young (The Young Scientist Series), Redleaf Press, 2003.

Louv, Richard. Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature Deficit Disorder. Algonquin Books, 2005.

Wilson, Ruth. Fostering a Sense of Wonder During the Early Childhood Years. Greyden Press. 1993.

Websites:

ALA's Great Websites for Kids:

Animals

<http://www.ala.org/gwstemplate.cfm?section=greatwebsites&template=/cfapps/gws/displaysection.cfm&sec=1>

Awesome Library – Kids

<http://www.awesomelibrary.org/Classroom/Science/Animals/Animals.html>

Awesome Library – Teachers

<http://www.awesomelibrary.org/Classroom/Science/Animals/Animals.html>

Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden

www.cincinnati-zoo.org

ENature

www.enature.com

Internet Public Library/Kidspage/

Animals (comprehensive listing)

<http://www.ipl.org/kidspage/browse/mas4500>

KinderNature: A Resource for Early Childhood Educators

<http://kindernature.storycounty.com>

National Geographic: Animals

<http://www3.nationalgeographic.com/animals/>

National Association for the Education of Young Children

www.naeyc.org