

## Grade Levels / Time:

K – 30 minutes  
1-2<sup>nd</sup> – 45 minutes



# Florida Expedition

**Goal:** To provide an introduction to Florida habitats and the animals who live there through a staff lead tour.

## Objectives:

- Students will understand an animal must have food, water, shelter and a safe space in order to survive.
- Students will discover what characteristics help an animal survive in his unique habitat.
- Students will recognize and explain how our actions can alter an ecosystem and learn what can be done to assist in conservation efforts.

## PLANNING YOUR RESERVATION

Fall and spring fill quickly  
**PLEASE REGISTER EARLY**

Groups must register  
**2 WEEKS IN ADVANCE**

Programs require a  
**MINIMUM OF 15 PEOPLE**

Programs are available  
**ON AND OFF SITE**

Visit our website for  
**EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES**

Proper adult supervision  
**REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES**

From swamp and wetlands to forests and scrub, students learn Florida habitats are home to many animals. We will take students into the Florida exhibit and with careful observations, investigate animals and their exceptional features.

## Curriculum Alignment:

SC.K.N.1.2; SC.K.N.1.5; SC.K.L.14.1; SC.K.L.14.3; SC.1.N.1.2; SC.1.N.1.4; SC.1.L.14.1; SC.1.L.14.3; SC.1.L.17.1; SC.2.N.1.3; SC.2.N.1.5; SC.2.L.17.1; SC.2.L.17.2

## *Where education and conservation collide!*

This program is an enhanced experience of the Florida habitats found at Brevard Zoo. Led by Brevard Zoo Education staff, students will experience our Florida exhibit and observe its animals to better understand each animal's unique characteristics which help them survive in their habitat. Programs are designed to supplement in-class learning. Depth and structure vary depending on grade and age range.

### Keywords:

Adaptation,  
Biodiversity;  
Camouflage, Climate,  
Invasive Species,  
Desert, Ecosystem,  
Environment, Habitat,

## What types of habitats are found in Florida?

There are many unique habitats found in Florida. Habitats provide animals with the food, water, shelter, and space they need for survival. Each of these habitats are home to a variety of animals and plants. Animals depend on their physical and behavioral characteristics to help them obtain food, keep safe, build homes, withstand weather, and attract mates within their habitats.

The scrublands of Florida are home to unique plants and animals. The Florida scrub is a harsh environment. It is dominated by small scrubs, often covered in spines and thorns, and a scattering of small trees. Temperatures are hot with rainwater soaking into the sands as quickly as it falls. Only the toughest plants and animals can survive. Some of the animals who might be found living in the scrub are black bears, bobcats, several species of snakes, and other reptiles.

The Florida Wetlands are one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. Many animals live and depend on the biodiversity of the wetlands. Many birds call it home all year while migratory birds fly in for the winter months. The American crocodile and alligator are able to coexist due the influx of salt water from the ocean and fresh water from Lake Okeechobee. The most endangered animal is the Florida panther. Other known mammals living in the wetlands of Florida include manatee, dolphin, and otter.

Many animals live in the woodlands of Florida, commonly known as Hammocks or Pine Woodlands, including the grey fox, raccoon, wild turkey, white tailed deer, and bobcat. Due to habitat loss, many Florida Woodlands have been destroyed. Many of these animals have adapted extremely well to living in rural areas while others have not.

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