WILDLIFE CONSERVATION THROUGH EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION

Grade Levels/Time:
PreK-K – 30 mimutes
1-2nd – 45 minutes

BREVARD ZOO

Fur, Feathers, Shells and Scales

Goal: *Provide an introduction to the animal kingdom using biofacts and hands-on animal interaction.*

Objectives:

- Students will understand scientist observe animals in order to learn more about them.
- Students will discover the five groups of vertebrates.
- Students will recognize which group animals belong to according to their coverings.
- Students will understand animals are different and similar in many ways.
- Students will appreciate the need to conserve animals around them.

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**

Explore the crazy world of animal coverings, coats, skins, and more. Learning comes to life as students discover the difference between reptiles, fish, birds, amphibians, and mammals.

Curriculum Alignment:

SC.K.N.1.2, SC.K.N.1.5, SC.K.L.14.2, SC.K.L.14.3, SC.1.N.1.2, SC.1.L.14.1, SC.1.L.16.1, SC.2.N.1.5, SC.2.L.16.1, SC.2.L.17.2

Where education and conservation collide!

This program, presented by Brevard Zoo Education staff, is an enhanced experience of the distinct and unique wildlife habitats found at Brevard Zoo. Students delve into the concept through fun, interactive activities, questions and participatory responses, hands-on animal encounters, and animal meet and greets. Programs are designed to supplement in-class learning. Depth and structure vary depending on grade and age range.

Keywords: Amphibian, Animal, Bird, Carnivore, Fish, Herbivore, Mammal, Metamorphosis, Reptile, Vertebrate, Classify, Scales, Scutes, Life Cycle, Metamorphosis, Gills

What are animals?

Millions of organisms belong to the Kingdom Animalia. There are six major groups: Invertebrates, Fish, Amphibians, Reptiles, Mammals, and Birds.

Invertebrates do not possess a backbone; many of these organisms have an outer skeleton, which is called an exoskeleton. Each of the remaining groups of animals all possess backbones and are therefore known as vertebrates (chordates).

Fish are vertebrate animals that live underwater and breathe through gills. There are over 20,000 species of fish.

Amphibians live part of their life on land and part in water. Examples of amphibians include frogs, toads, salamanders, and newts. Amphibians are cold-blooded. This means that they are unable to regulate their body temperature metabolically.

Reptiles are also cold-blooded. Instead of having slimy moist skin, a reptile's body is covered with scales. The majority of reptiles lay eggs on land, rather than in the water like amphibians. Reptiles include crocodiles, alligators, snakes, lizards, turtles, and tuataras.

There are over 5,000 species of mammals. Mammals are covered in fur or hair. They are warm-blooded and able to regulate their body temperature. Mammals typically give live birth and the mother feeds the young milk. Examples include sugar gliders, chinchillas, guinea pigs, dogs, cats, and manatees.

The presence of feathers distinguishes birds from other animals. Worldwide, there are about 10,000 species of birds. Birds lay eggs and have a beak rather than teeth. Not all birds can fly.

Scientists use the unique characteristics of each animal to classify it using taxonomy. Taxonomy is the theory, practice and rules for classification of living and extinct organisms. Animals are given scientific names using the binomial system invented by Carl Linnaeus.

ACCREDITED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS & AQUARIUMS

For more information or to book a program email EDREGISTRAR@BREVARDZOO.ORG or call 321.254.9453 X219