



Critter Close-Up

Auditorium Program for Grades 3-5

Students learn about the basic elements needed to make up a habitat. They meet live animals who make their homes in a variety of habitats, such as deserts, forests and wetlands and become acquainted with the unique adaptations those animals have evolved to survive.

Lesson: Learn about habitats and some unique adaptations animals use to survive.

Conservation Message: All life on Earth exists as part of an ecosystem.

Curriculum Objectives:

Tennessee students will apply the following **Science State Performance Indicators:**

- Investigate an organism's characteristics and evaluate how these features enable it to survive in a particular environment.
- Determine how a physical or behavioral adaptation can enhance the chances of survival.
- Identify physical and behavioral adaptations that enable animals such as amphibians, reptiles, birds, fish and mammals to survive in a particular environment.

Georgia students will apply the following **Science Performance Standards:**

- Students will examine the dependence of organisms on one another and their environments.
- Students will investigate the diversity of living organisms and how they can be compared scientifically.

Alabama students will apply the following **Science Course of Study Content Standards:**

- Describe the relationships of populations within a habitat to various communities and ecosystems.
- Describe characteristics common to living things, including growth and development, reproduction, cellular organization, use of energy, exchange of gases and response to the environment.

All students will apply the following **National Science Education Content Standards:**

- Develop an understanding of the interdependence of organisms.
- Develop an understanding of the behavior of organisms.

Visit the Tennessee Aquarium Education Department's website

<http://www.tnaqua.org/Education/>



Critter Close-up Activity Sheet

Complete the sentences below using the words in the word bank.

1. A _____ is the type of environment in which an organism or group normally lives or occurs.
2. There are four basic things needed to make a habitat: food, water, space and _____.
3. Every thing on earth is a part of some type of _____.
4. A habitat with very little water or vegetation, but is very arid and sandy is called a _____.
5. A habitat with over 100 inches of rainfall a year and lots of trees and vegetation is called a _____.
6. _____ can survive only in environments in which their needs can be met.
7. Birdbaths and gardens are elements found in a _____ habitat.
8. Animals display unique _____ to survive in their _____.
9. All life is interdependent and _____ with the environment.
10. A _____ is a type of animal usually found in a rainforest and a _____ is a type of animal usually found in a swamp.



WORD BANK
ECOSYSTEM
TREE FROG
RAINFOREST
INTERACTS
ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLE
ORGANISMS
BACKYARD
ENVIRONMENT
ADAPTATIONS
SHELTER
DESERT
HABITAT



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