

Program Title: Animal Habitats: Who Lives Here?

Grade: 3

Time Frame: 45 minutes



Objectives:

- SWBAT define the four basic needs of all living organisms (water, shelter, food and space) and how they work together in an ecosystem.

General Goals: Students will make the connection between the basic needs of an animal, and the animal's habitat, which provides for all those needs. They will be guided through one example, and then identify all four needs for a different animal to create a "habitat brochure".

Curriculum Standards:

- Standard - 4.1.3.D

Identify organisms that are dependent on one another in a given ecosystem.

Define habitat and explain how a change in habitat affects an organism.

- Standard - 4.2.3.B

Identify plants and animals found in a wetland.

Audubon Conservation Message/Theme: Bird Friendly Communities: Both people and wildlife depend on clean water for survival. Healthy water creates better habitat for wildlife and a healthier community for people.

Vocabulary Terms:

- Habitat, organism, shelter, wetland

Materials:

- Travel brochure
- Lesson power point
- Lesson worksheet

Direct Instruction:

Use the power point to review vocabulary terms.

- Define habitat: an animal's home
 - Give examples of different habitats
- Define organism: a living thing

- Identify the four basic needs of all organisms: food, water, shelter, space
- Define ecosystem: an area that has living organisms, food, water, shelter and space all working together
- Discuss the habitat of a mallard, and how it provides for the organisms basic needs:
 - Food = duckweed
 - Water = pond
 - Shelter = cattail
 - Space = wetland

Guided Practice:

Students will be asked to use the example of the ducks habitat to help them identify a potential habitat for a Blue Jay. They will pretend to be Travel Guides and create a brochure to attract Blue Jays to that habitat. They will receive a blank brochure, and will draw labeled pictures of the food, water, shelter and space a Blue Jay could find at the lot.

Reflection Exercise:

Choose one type of pollution, and write or draw what might happen if that pollution got into the Blue Jay's habitat. How would it affect the 4 things the Blue Jay needs?