Environmental Education Programs

Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge Environmental Education Program

Bring the outside inside by having a refuge staff member visit your classroom with one of these free, interactive educational programs! These programs, as well as nature walks, are also available during field trips to the refuge Visitor Center. Choose from the programs listed below or request one to meet your classroom needs.

Animal Camouflage (grades 2-10) **Duration:** 30-45 minutes

From arctic hares to sand spiders to leafy sea dragons, learn how animals hide and hunt by blending into their surroundings. Lesson is adaptable for a variety of grades. Programs for older groups discuss the more technical aspects of camouflage (e.g., chemical camouflage).

Animal Olympics (grades 1-6) **Duration:** 45-60 minutes

Animals can perform amazing feats of Olympic proportions! Can you jump as high as a mule deer, hold your breath as long as a sperm whale, or flap your "wings" as fast as a hummingbird? Kids compare their skills to those of animals through this physically-active lesson.

Ecosystems Alive! (grades 2-7) **Duration:** 60 minutes

If you had a magic wand, would you get rid of mosquitoes? How about snakes? Students learn about habitats, food webs, and ecosystems as they come to understand why all wildlife – small and large, liked and disliked – are important for a healthy ecosystem.

FISH! (grades K-3) **Duration:** 20-30 minutes

Introductory lesson to the world of fish. What makes a fish a fish? What is the difference between a fish and a mammal? Learn how fish survive, where they prefer to live, what they eat, and how they catch their food. Also find out about some native and exotic fish that live in southwest Idaho.

Highways in the Sky (grades 1-8) **Duration:** 45-60 minutes

What bird migrates 30,000 miles each year? How many McDonald's hamburgers would a person have to eat to store as much fat as a migrating shorebird? Learn fascinating facts about wildlife migrations and the Pacific Flyway – a highway in the sky for migrating birds over Southwest Idaho.

Lessons from *The Lorax* (grades 1-5) **Duration:** 45-60 minutes

Learn about conservation through literature. Discover the importance of trees to people and wildlife through Dr Seuss' "The Lorax." Students explore how human choices impact wildlife and how they can be good land stewards by making responsible choices to help wildlife.

~All programs help you meet state standards and are FREE ~

National Wildlife Refuge System (grades 2-12) **Duration:** 45-60 minutes

Explore the National Wildlife Refuge System with this interactive program. Students learn about the largest system of public lands designated for wildlife and take a closer look at critters from Maine to Hawaii and every region in between.

Touch Trunk (grades K-12) **Duration:** 30-60 minutes

This hands-on investigatory activity is designed to introduce students to nature and get them thinking about wildlife in their local environment. The trunk includes animal pelts, skulls, snake skins, feathers, and more. The trunk can be scheduled alone or in addition to another program.

Waterfowl Conservation and the Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest

We visit your classroom with a 30-45 minute introduction to waterfowl and wetland conservation. What a great way to begin a larger unit on waterfowl conservation based on the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation Program (curriculum available at http://www.fws.gov/duckstamps/junior/junior.htm). This program uses art to engage students in learning about waterfowl, culminating in a state-wide Jr. Duck Stamp Art Contest! Every entrant receives a certificate.

Wetlands' Wonders (grades 2-6) **Duration:** 60 minutes

How is a wetland like a pillow? Like a bar of soap? Like a zoo? Students identify metaphors for wetland functions and learn about the ecology of local wetlands wildlife.

More program topics are available

We can also visit your classroom with a 30-45 minute presentation from one of our traveling educational trunks. Available trunks are *Scat and Tracks*, *All About Owls*, *Jaws and Levers*, *Bird Beaks*, *Refuge in a Box, Endangered Species and Fire!* Ask for the Traveling Trunks flyer for more information!

Field trips...we do those too!

Visits focus on the components of habitat, the National Wildlife Refuge System mission, and exploring the sagebrush landscape. Nature trail and Visitor Center facilities are also available. Schedule A.S.A.P.

Welcome wildlife into your Curriculum by scheduling a program or Field trip!

Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge Educational Outreach
13751 Upper Embankment Road
Nampa, ID 83686
Phone: (208) 467-9278 **Fax:** (208) 467-1019
e-mail: deerflat@fws.gov

~All programs help you meet state standards and are FREE ~