

FIELD TRIP OPENINGS AND CLOSINGS



OPENINGS (30 MINUTES)

- Salty and Cali Puppet Show (grades K - 4)

This puppet show stars Salty, the salt marsh harvest mouse, and Cali, the California Clapper Rail. Salty and Cali introduce students to terms such as “endangered species”, “habitats”, and “salt marsh”. The puppet show ends with a review of what students can do to help the refuge.

Activities related to the It's Sloughpendous! Video: *It is required for grades 3 - 6 to watch the It's Sloughpendous! Video (20 minutes) before they attend a field trip at the Refuge.*

- "It's Sloughpendous!" Opening Slide Show (grades 3 - 6)

This slide show is narrated by Refuge staff. The slide show will discuss the watershed, habitats, and endangered species of the Refuge. Refuge staff will lead a demonstration and discussion about the watershed.

CLOSINGS

(Please add an additional 10 minutes at the end of the closing for a staff presentations and “thank-you’s”.)

Activities with Student Participation

- Salt Marsh Blackout Game Show (15 minutes, grades 3 - 6)

This closing activity is an interactive game that reviews the watershed, habitats, endangered species, and food webs of the Refuge.

- Habitat Flannel Banner (20 minutes, grades K-6)

With the use of a flannel banner, students are asked to name and label the habitats at the refuge, create a food chain in each habitat, and discuss ways to help the refuge protect the habitats.

- Wetland Protectors Poetry Closing (15 minutes, grades K-6)

At the end of the last activity rotation the students will receive a poem about that particular activity to bring with them to the Pavilion. With the direction of Refuge staff, students will then construct a poem, using the individual poems, about the habitats in the watershed. The activity will end in a discussion about ways that students can help protect the watershed.

- Sandy the Sandpiper: A Shorebird's Migration (25 minutes, grades K-6)

A humorous play that involves the students in the story of a migrating Western Sandpiper from her Nesting grounds in Alaska to her wintering grounds in Mexico. Students will learn about the hazards that shorebirds encounter on a migration and what they can do to protect shorebirds and their habitats. Stars one staff person as the narrator and a parent or educator as Sandy the Western Sandpiper. This activity includes an introduction to the Sister Shorebird Schools Program.

- Super Citizen (25 minutes, grades K - 6)

A humorous play that involves the students and encourages them to help save salt marshes. Stars one staff person as the narrator and a parent or educator as Super Citizen.

- Salty's Search for a Habitat (15 minutes, grades K - 3)

This picture book leads students on a humorous journey with the Salty puppet, the salt marsh harvest mouse, as she searches for a suitable habitat. The story will end with a discussion of how students can protect the Refuge's habitats.

- Question and Answer (10 - 15 minutes, grades K - 6)

Staff lead the students through a question and answer session. This can be added onto other closing activities or be done as the only closing.