



Broward County Public Schools Videoconference

Reading Rascals

Lesson: An Everglades Adventure
Instructor: Dr. Evelyn Nelson-Weaver
BECON Distance Learning Teacher

Grade Level: First Grade

Sunshine State Standard: SC.F.2.1 and SC.H.2.1

Benchmark: SC.F.2.1.2, SC.G.1.1.1, SC.G.1.1.2, SC.G.1.1.3, SC.G.1.1.4

Objective(s):

1. Students will be able to describe at least two different animal habitats found in the Everglades.
2. Students will be able to tell how at least two different kinds of animals survive in their natural Everglades habitats.
3. Students will be able to name at least one animal that lives in each of the different kinds of habitats in the Everglades.

SCIENCE SKILL: Infer.

MEDIA CONNECTION: Welcome to the Florida Everglades, *National Parks: The Florida Everglades*. Discovery Channel School (2005). Retrieved January 22, 2008, from unitedstreaming: <http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/>

ACTIVITY: Questions for students:

- Is the Florida Everglades considered a swamp? *No*
- Is the water clear in the Everglades? *Yes*
- Are Cypress Domes or Tree Islands in the Everglades on land that is higher or lower than the Sawgrass Prairie? *Higher*

LITERATURE CONNECTION:

Book Title: Everglades National Park

Author: Wende Fazio

Publisher: Children's Press, New York, NY (1998)

Summary: This book describes the history, landscape, wildlife, and activities for visitors at the Everglades National Park.

ACTIVITY:

- The videoconference teacher will read Everglades National Park
- Questions for students:
 - What does the Seminole word Pa-Hay-Okee mean? *Grassy waters*
 - What season are the Everglades experiencing right now?
 - What color is the sawgrass in the dry season? *Gold and brown* Wet season? *Green*
 - How is a gator hole formed? *Alligator makes the hole*
 - Why do many animals come to the gator hole in the winter? *They come for water*
 - Why is the anhinga called a snake bird? *Because it often swims with only its long neck sticking out of the water*
 - Which tree stands up on its roots? *Slash Pine or the mangrove tree*

ACTIVITY:

Students will place animal in the appropriate habitat.

GUIDE:**Animals of the Everglades****Pine Forest**

Bobcat
Panther
Bald Eagle – Nests in trees
Wood Stork – Nests in trees

Sawgrass Prairie

Alligator – Wet season
Fish – Wet Season

Ponds & Gator Holes

Alligator – Dry Season
Fish – Dry Season
Snail Kite
Anhinga – Nests in trees overhanging or near water
Wood Stork – Dry Season
Bald Eagle – Prefers Fish

MATERIALS NEEDED: None

EXTENSION: Students will work with their teacher to create a paragraph about *An Everglades Adventure*.

Related Websites:

Everglades National Park: natural features & ecosystems

<http://www.nps.gov/ever/naturescience/naturalfeaturesandecosystems.htm>

Information on the Wood Stork

<http://pelotes.jea.com/wodstrk.htm>

Information about the Snail Kite

http://www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/BirdGuide/Snail_Kite.html#description

Information about the Bald Eagle

http://www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/BirdGuide/Bald_Eagle.html

Information about the Anhinga

<http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/522/articles/introduction>