

GCV&M Curriculum Connections (Grades K-5)

Animal Kingdom

In this exciting, hands-on program, a museum naturalist visits our classroom with a live animal and real animal artifacts! Students will explore how animals are grouped—like mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and insects—by learning about their unique characteristics and adaptations.

We'll discover how animals survive in the wild, compare different animal groups, and even meet an amazing creature up close. It's a fun and engaging way to bring science to life and build a love for local wildlife!

FIELD TRIP OBJECTIVES

- Explore and understand the basic characteristics that define each major animal family.
- Learn how to classify animals into their correct families based on observable traits.
- Describe specific adaptations that help different species survive in their natural environments.
- Become familiar with common local wildlife and understand their roles within the ecosystem.

KEY WORDS

Adaptations	Life Cycle
Habitat	Migration
Ecosystems	Climate
Animal Kingdom	Landscape
Biodiversity	Observation
Amphibians	Population
Interactions	Species
Reptiles	Relationships



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Connections to NYS Standards

P-LS1-1. Observe familiar plants and animals (including humans) and describe what they need to survive.

P-LS1-2. Plan and conduct an investigation to determine how familiar plants and/or animals use their external parts to help them survive in the environment.

K-LS1-1. Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive.

K-ESS2-2. Construct an argument supported by evidence for how plants and animals (including humans) can change the environment to meet their needs.

K-ESS3-1. Use a model to represent the relationship between the needs of different plants or animals (including humans) and the places they live.

1-LS1-1. Use materials to design a solution to a human problem by mimicking how plants and/or animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs.

2-LS4-1. Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.

3-LS4-3. Construct an argument with evidence that in a particular habitat some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all.

3-LS3-1. Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence that plants and animals have traits inherited from parents and that variation of these traits exists in a group of similar organisms.

3-LS3-2. Use evidence to support the explanation that traits can be influenced by the environment.

3-LS4-2. Use evidence to construct an explanation for how the variations in characteristics among individuals of the same species may provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, and reproducing.

4-LS1-1. Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.