



## **Playcard Environmental Education Center Pre-visit Information Sheet**

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### **Playcard Pre-visit Information Sheet Fourth Grade: Habitats and Environments**

#### **4th Habitats and Environments**

4-1.7, 4-2.1, 4-2.2, 4-2.3,  
,4-2.5

#### **Science Standards Addressed**

Environment exploration, comparison, and study, organisms relationships and interactions to particular habitats and environments, animal senses, animal behaviors, animal changes to environments, light studies, sound, Wetland, Meadow, Bottomland Hardwood forest studies/collections; etc.

**Source:** *2005 SC Science Standards*

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:**

Students will receive first-hand experiences exploring the life within a fallow field, an old-growth forest, and black-water beaver-pond swamp environment. Students will be led to find and classify major groups of organisms such as Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Fish, Fungi, and Plants as they relate to their specific environments and habitat requirements in outdoor settings. The students, working in teams, will explore the habitats of Playcard through the use of sampling equipment. They will collect and observe a variety of biotic and abiotic components of habitats including insects and their larva, crustaceans, vertebrate and plant species. Students will get to experience first hand the changes made to the environment by beavers, woodpeckers, insects, and other animals. Taxidermy specimens of wetland and upland mammals, reptiles, and birds will be included. Time will be shared between field and lab activities.

**TOPICS and VOCABULARY (The following topics and words will be used in your program. If possible, please research the topics and investigate the word's definitions.)**

**TOPICS:** [South Carolina Reptiles](#), [Mammals](#), [Amphibians](#), and [Birds](#), [Bird Guide](#)

**VOCABULARY (The following words will be used in your program. If possible, please investigate their definitions.)**

**Adaptation    Vertebrate    Swamp    Herbivore    Carnivore    Pond**  
**Aquatic Nymph    Invertebrate    Food Chain    Omnivore    Scavenger    Wetlands**

#### **Preparing for your Visit**

1. Please encourage students to wear clothing appropriate for the weather conditions and be ready to explore nature with all their senses.
2. CHAPERONES: Students should have a 1 adult for every 5 students. This is not a requirement, but does add to the program significantly.
3. Please bring ONE 1 GALLON SIZED ZIPLOCK BAG PER STUDENT for collections, do not harm any organism collected, release back into native habitats.

#### **Post Visit Activity**

As an assessment, each grade level is encouraged to create a learning, "feedback" project. These projects may be any appropriate feedback method as prescribed by the teacher. Some examples are, letters of what the students learned with drawings and/or photographs of the experience, power point presentations, videos, learning logs, journals, projects (i.e. a bug collection, leaf collection, copy of presentation, etc.)