



LIVING WILD

Level: **Grades 3-5**Length: **45 minutes**

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Discover the wonders of the animal kingdom as you meet members of Fernbank's live animal collection. Insects, reptiles, and amphibians will help your students understand habitats, adaptations, and the important roles these animals play in the environment. Our animal ambassadors will inspire your students to appreciate and protect the natural world.

CURRICULUM CORRELATIONS

Students will:

- Discuss how animals are identified and compare different animal groups. **S5L1a**
- Explore how external features and adaptations of animals allow them to survive in their habitat. **S3L1b**
- Identify the roles of organisms and the flow of energy within an ecosystem. **S4L1**

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How are *structure* and *function* related in organisms?

PROGRAM VOCABULARY

Adaptation
ClassificationHabitat
Keystone Species

Niche

ASSOCIATED VOCABULARY

Camouflage
Carnivore
Cold-BloodedEndangered
Food Chain/Web
HerbivoreInvertebrate
OmnivoreVertebrate
Warm-Blooded

PRE-VISIT ACTIVITIES

As a class, review vocabulary and identify some different types of animals defined by shared characteristics. Discuss the type of animals which live in Georgia and what traits or behaviors that help them survive.

AT THE MUSEUM

Visit **A Walk Through Time in Georgia** and have students search each diorama for animals which live in (and are adapted to) the ecosystems of Georgia.

POST-VISIT ACTIVITIES

Have students research and write a report about one of the animal species (or closely related species) they saw during the program, including its habitat, role in the ecosystem, and adaptations.