



CREATURE FEATURES

Level: **Grades K-12**

Length: **25 minutes**

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Let members of Fernbank's live animal collection guide you through the world of science! Insects, reptiles and amphibians will help your students understand habitats, adaptations and more in one of our many Creature Feature themes. Our animal ambassadors will inspire your students to appreciate the wonders of the natural world.

GENERAL VOCABULARY

Adaptation

Ecosystem

Habitat

Invertebrate

Vertebrate

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Access to additional resources, including pre- and post-program activities will be available through Fernbank's virtual learning platform, Moodle.com. You will be provided registration access prior to your program date to establish your Moodle account.

The themes on the following pages each address a different Essential Question in line with Georgia Standards of Excellence.

VIRTUAL PROGRAM SUMMARY - CREATURE FEATURES

Each of the following themes addresses a different Essential Question in line with Georgia Standards of Excellence.

ANIMAL GROUPS (recommended grades: K-5)

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How are *structure* and *function* related in living things?

CURRICULUM CORRELATIONS

Students will:

1. Group organisms based on attributes and compare the life cycles and traits of each group. **SKL1b; SKL2a; S2L1d; S5L1a**
2. Recognize the basic needs of animals. **S1L1b**

THEME-SPECIFIC VOCABULARY

Amphibian

Bird

Insect

Mammal

Reptile

GEORGIA'S NATIVE SPECIES (recommended grades: 3-5)

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How does *where* an organism live affect *how* it lives?

CURRICULUM CORRELATIONS

Students will:

1. Identify animals native to Georgia and the natural region(s) in which they live. **S3L1a**
2. Discuss the adaptations—both external traits and behaviors—which help Georgia species survive in their habitat. **S3L1b,c; S5L1a**
3. Recognize the roles native species play within their Georgia ecosystems. **S4L1a**

THEME-SPECIFIC VOCABULARY

Conservaton

Endangered

Natural Regions

DEFENSE (recommended grades: 3-5)

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How are *structure* and *function* related in living things?

CURRICULUM CORRELATIONS

Students will:

1. Explore how external features and adaptations of animals allow them to survive in their habitat. **S3L1b; S5L2b**
2. Recognize the roles animals play within their ecosystems, such as predator and prey. **S4L1a**

THEME-SPECIFIC VOCABULARY

Camouflage

Mimicry

Venom

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ECOSYSTEM ENERGY (recommended grades: 3-8)

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How and why do organisms interact with each other and their environment?

CURRICULUM CORRELATIONS

Students will:

1. Trace the path of energy through organisms in an ecosystem. **S4L1b; S7L4b; S8P2c**
2. Recognize the roles of producers, consumers, and decomposers, and the adaptations which help them fulfil these roles. **S4L1a; S5L1a; S7L4a**

THEME-SPECIFIC VOCABULARY

Carnivore Decomposer Food Chain/Web Herbivore Omnivore

CLASSIFICATION & PHYLOGENETICS (recommended grades: 9-12)

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How do classifications demonstrate relationships between organisms?

CURRICULUM CORRELATIONS

Students will:

1. Construct a model of the relationships between different groups of organisms. **SB4a,b; SZ1c**
2. Compare and contrast structural adaptations of different organisms and identify how similar structures can indicate close biological relationships. **SB6c; SZ2b; SZ3c**
3. Recognize how classifications and structures in animals relate to the roles they play in ecosystems. **SZ4a**

THEME-SPECIFIC VOCABULARY

Classification Evolution Genus/Species Phylogenetics