



Protecting Southwest Florida's unique natural environment and quality of life ... now and forever.

Wildlife Adventure Series- Slither, Slither Snake Pre and Post-Program Activities

Grade Level: Pre-K & Kindergarten

Next Generation Sunshine State Standards

- Life Science; Environmental Awareness
- SC.K.L.14.1; SC.K.L.14.3; SC.K.P.10.1

Program Overview

Join us on a wild adventure! Discover amazing animals and explore nature through multi-sensory, interactive activities, stories, games and more.

Learning Objectives Students will be able to:

1. Identify characteristics of snakes and describe how they are alike and how they are different from other animals.
2. Recognize and explore the unique senses used by snakes to survive in their environment.
3. Recognize and demonstrate how snakes and other animals use camouflage to survive their environment.

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Conservancy of Southwest Florida has been awarded Charity Navigator's prestigious 4-Star top rating for good governance, sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency. Charity Navigator is America's largest and most respected independent evaluator of charities.

Pre-Program Activity: Habitat for a Snake

Duration of Activity: ~1 hour

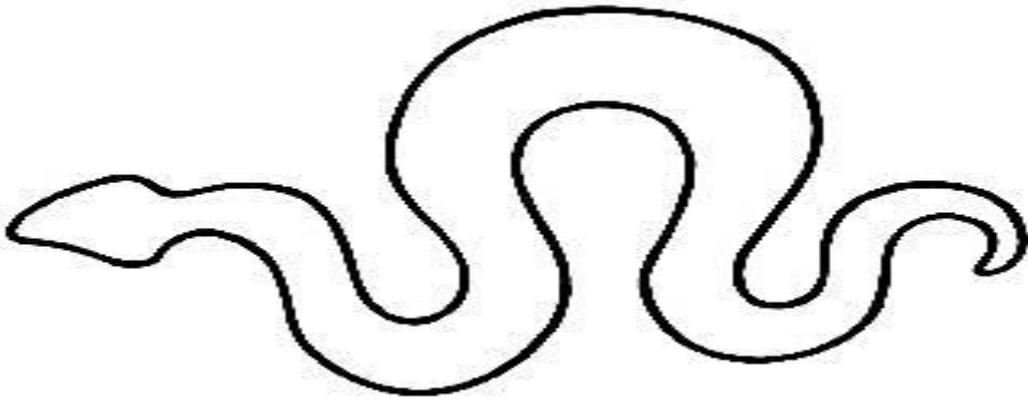
Materials:

- Access to a computer and the ability to project it onto a screen for the class.
- YouTube video: Snakes- Animals for children. Kids videos. Kindergarten. Preschool learning. <https://youtu.be/rMn9En-MNM8>
- Snake outlines (below)
- Crayons

Background: Snakes are legless, carnivorous reptiles. Snakes are ectothermic (cold-blooded, meaning they match the temperature of their environment), and covered in overlapping scales. Many species of snakes have skulls with several more joints than their lizard ancestors, enabling them to swallow prey much larger than their heads with their highly mobile jaws. There are many different types of snakes in the world, and they are all designed to live in their specific environment.

Directions:

1. Show the YouTube video (1:11) to the students so they can learn a few things about snakes: <https://youtu.be/rMn9En-MNM8>
2. Hand out snake outline worksheets to students and tell them they are to do 3 things:
 - a. Give their snake features- Eyes for seeing; no nose; tongue for smelling; stripes/patterns for camouflage. Do snakes have arms and legs? NO!
 - b. Draw the snake's habitat around them. Are there trees, water, plants, etc.? Places for the snake to hide?
 - c. Draw some food for the snake to eat (rats, mice, birds, lizards, etc.).



Post-Program Activity: How Snakes Camouflage

Duration of Activity: ~30 minutes

Adapted from Growing Up Wild – Hiding in Plain Sight Activity

Materials: 50-100 pipe cleaners in assorted colors

Directions:

1. When children are not in the room, hide the “snakes” (pipe cleaners) around the room. Try to match similarly colored pipe cleaners to objects in the room. Some may be placed in plain sight, while others may be placed more slyly.
2. Have children recall what they learned from the Conservancy program about snakes and camouflage. How does camouflage help snakes survive in the wild?
3. Tell students that they are to try to find the camouflaged “snakes” in the room. Allow students 1-2 minutes or so to locate the snakes.
4. After the allotted time, come together as a class to discuss. Did the students find all of the snakes? If not, point out any that they failed to locate, and why (better camouflaged, perhaps?).

Questions for Discussion:

1. Which snakes (colors) were the easiest to find? Why?
2. Which were the hardest? Why?
3. If you were a snake, would you want to be camouflaged? Why or why not?
4. What other animals use camouflage? How does it help them survive?
5. If an animal does not use camouflage, what are some other traits that help it to survive? (Ex. venom/poison, speed, claws, sharp teeth, etc.)