

CCPRD Education Program Planning Sheet

Program Title: Biodiversity Basics

Theme of the Lesson: (I want students to understand that.....)

Biodiversity simply means the variety of life at three basic levels habitat, species and genetic. The more diversity at all levels generally indicates a healthy environment with natural resources. The HIPPO formula provides a way to determine if a species is at risk of becoming threaten or endangered.

Time Period: 45 minutes

Location: GSC Building: Conference Room 171

Meet for introductory activity then define biodiversity. Follow with illustration of different levels. .

Goals: Participants will be able to:

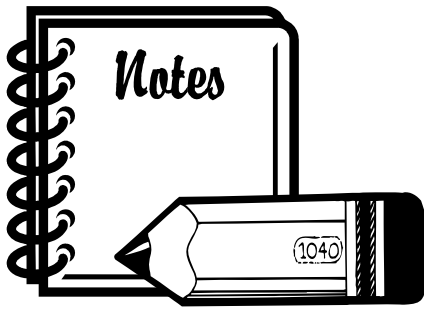
1. Recognize endangered and threaten species in Pennsylvania.
2. Define biodiversity and name the three different levels.
3. Name the HIPPO formula and explain the terms that increase the risk of threaten and endangered status.
4. Rank species at the lowest to greatest risk of endangered species.
5. Display creative writing skills by writing Habitat classified ads.

Program Resources:

- Endangered Species: Wild & Rare *NatureScope* by National Wildlife Federation.
- Mammals Part 1: *NatureScope* by National Wildlife Federation
- *Sharing Nature with Children* by Joseph Cornell

Equipment and Materials:

- Who Am I Cards with PA Endangered & Threaten species
- Cereal Variety Pack/Bear Cards
- Rare Scare Cards
- Habitat for Sale Handouts & Backyard Visitor Cards
- HIPPO Handout



The Presentation

Introduction: “The Hook”

Play the Who Am I activity with a variety of species educational mount in the front of the room.

What makes a plant or animal species endangered or threaten? What park residents or visitors are endangered or threaten? Why is that?

Body: Biodiversity Basics

- A. What does Biodiversity mean?
 - 1. **DEFINING BIODIVERSITY:** Biodiversity simply means the variety of life at three levels: habitat, species, and genetic.
 - 2. Illustrate with the bear cards and cereal variety pack.
- B. **HIPPO** Formula
 - 1. Use the **HIPPO** acronym to explain some of the major reasons plant and animal species become threatened and endangered.
- C. **RARE SCARE** activity
 - 1. Compare several imaginary animals to determine which has the most typical characteristics to become endangered.
- D. **HABITAT** for **SALE**
 - 1. Write a classified ad for a Habitat Sale based on selected backyard visitor card using food, water, space, shelter, predator & prey relationships and wit. Read & guess the shared classified ads.

Conclusion: Gather back in general session, review the goals through a question & answer session and make announcements for future lessons for example, Coyote CSI & Peep of Spring in March.

Procedural Notes: