

Vertebrates

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Standard Statement(s):

4.5.4 A - Identify and categorize vertebrates. Know how vertebrates fit in a food chain.

4.5.4 B - Know why people control vertebrates.

4.5.7 A - Explain benefits and harmful effects of vertebrates. Identify several locations where they can be found and compare the effects that the vertebrates have on each location.

4.5.7 B - Identify issues related to integrated pest management that affect the environment.

Content Objective(s):

Students will be able to:

Identify various classifications of vertebrates.

Understand how vertebrates fit into a food chain.

Understand both positive and negative effects of vertebrates.

Assessment Strategies:

Small groups writing a story with illustrations or as a class, write a play or create a video explaining different aspects about small vertebrates.

Background/Introduction to Topic:

Students are familiar with many animals with backbones live all around us.

Some of these vertebrates are pests such as birds, rodents and other small mammals.

By observing the habits of vertebrates, students will learn how they are beneficial and/or harmful to the environment.

Procedures:

Students will:

Observe various creatures in their natural habitat from the classroom or outside.

Will draw pictures or write words to record observations.

Brainstorm ways to teach others about animals by playing games or roll playing.

Students will create a play or short skits to educate others about vertebrates.

Conclusions:

Through observation and recording data, students will learn about behaviors of many small mammals. They will also learn that many people have different opinions about how wild animals should be controlled. Students will be able to share their knowledge when they either read their books, or present their play or video.

References:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035
(413) 253-8643

Pennsylvania Game Commission
Southeast Region
Reading, PA
(610) 926-3136

Related Web Sites:

Wildlife Damage Control

<http://www.wildlifedamagecontrol.com/wdih.html>

Beasts Begone!

<http://www.nysipm.cornell.edu/publications/beasts>