



Healthy Habitat



In this lesson, children will learn the importance of a healthy habitat for wildlife.

BACKGROUND:

A habitat is the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism. There are a number of natural habitats which are being depleted along with food sources for wildlife in our area. People can help create a natural area around their homes to support wildlife in a safe and healthy environment.

MATERIALS:

- Green construction paper or green printer paper
- Scissors
- Pictures from garden magazines or images of various backyard landscapes
- Cardstock
- Tape or glue



PROCEDURE:

- Have a discussion as a family about what animals need to survive.
- Collect pictures of trees, shrubs, flowers, birds, bees, butterflies, water features, and rocks. The items should be about the same size and fit to the scale of your green construction paper or grass lawn.
- Cut out the shapes of the different items that you selected.
- Cut out and fold a small piece of card stock to the back of each item so that the image can stand on its own.
- Ask children to start with a grass lawn, represented by the green construction paper.
- Ask children to select pictures of items that represent components of healthy habitats they would like to have in their own yard.
- Observe the selections that the child included in their habitat. Take pictures of their model and consider picking one of the components to replicate in your yard.
- Compare the created habitat with the habitat of selected local animals.

CONCLUSION:

Research locations to visit wildlife in their natural habitat or at nature preserves to find out more about local animals and their habitats! Have a conversation to discuss how you as a family can create a habitat around your home for local wildlife like birds, butterflies, and other beneficial insects.

Learn more at:



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