



SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Wetlands

K-3 Classroom Activities

Walk through the Wetlands

OBJECTIVE

The student will become familiar with different types of wetlands and their inhabitants by matching pairs of pictures.

ACTION

1. Give each student two sets of cards. Identify the different animals and plants pictured, and explain that all these organisms live in wetlands of one type or another. Ask students if they have ever seen any of these animals or plants.
2. Students color and cut out the cards.
3. Students form pairs or groups of 3 to 4. The student whose deck is used in play is the dealer.
4. Each player is dealt three cards. The remaining cards are placed, face down, in a stack in the middle of the playing surface.
5. The student to the dealer's right calls another student by name and asks if they have a particular card to match one in their hand ("Chris, do you have a marsh snail?"). That student must surrender the card if he/she has it. The player puts the two cards together and sets them aside. If the student asked doesn't have the card, he/she says "Walk through the wetlands," and the player must draw one card from the stack. If it's a match, he/she sets the pair aside and takes another turn. If the card drawn isn't a match, the player must add it to his/her hand, and the student to his/her right becomes the next player. The first player to empty his/her hand wins.

MATERIALS

For each student:

- two copies of pages 3-5
- crayons or markers scissors

DEEPER DEPTHS

Try one or more of these variations:

Match My Neighbor:

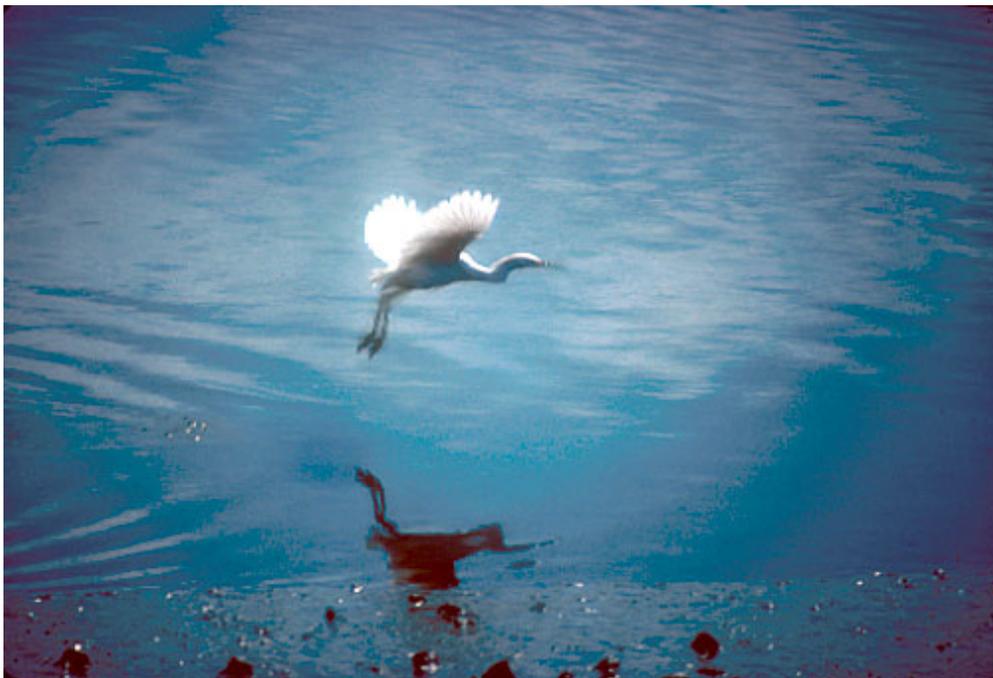
Players try to match animals with plants that live in the same habitat.

Wetlands Concentration:

1. Shuffle cards, then place them face down in rows of three.
2. Player turns over one card, then turns over another card.
3. If it's a match, the player keeps the pair. If no match is made, both cards are turned facedown again and the next player repeats the process.

Picture Perfect:

1. One player draws a card and tells her/his team if it's a plant or animal.
2. Player uses a whiteboard or piece of paper to draw pictures that her/his team guess the name of the plant or animals.



Egrets are commonly found along coastal wetlands.

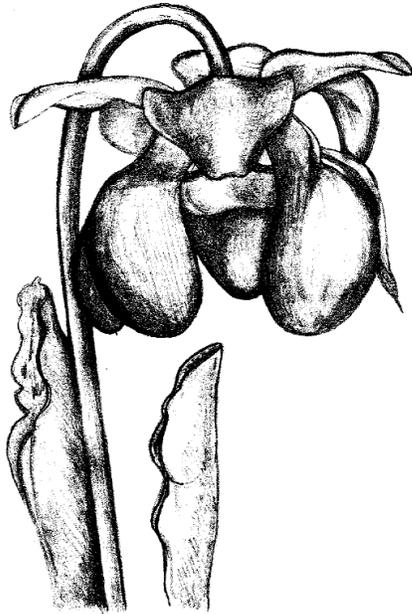
northern pitcher plant

Sarracenia purpurea

size: 20 to 60 cm (8-24 in.)

habitat: sphagnum bogs

distribution: Nova Scotia to Florida



sphagnum moss

Sphagnum cymbifolium

size: to 30 cm (1 ft.)

habitat: bogs

distribution: Canada to West Virginia



cattails

Typha latifolia

size: 90 to 270 cm (3-9 ft.)

habitat: freshwater marshes

distribution: Newfoundland to Alaska



bald cypress

Toxodium distichum

size: 30 to 37 m (100-200 ft.)

habitat: very wet areas, swamps

distribution: Delaware to Florida



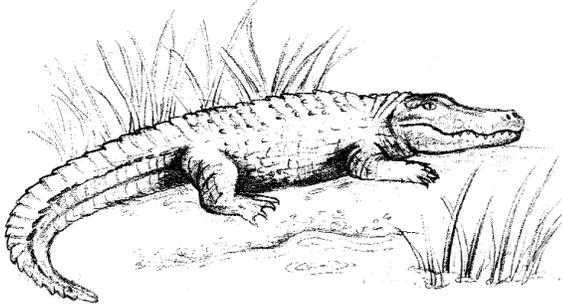
American alligator

Alligator mississippiensis

size: 1.8 to 5.8 m (6-19 ft.)

habitat: fresh and brackish swamps

distribution: North Carolina to Texas



great blue heron

Ardea herodias

size: 99 to 132 cm (39-52 in.)

habitat: marshes, lakes, ponds

distribution: Alaska to the West Indies



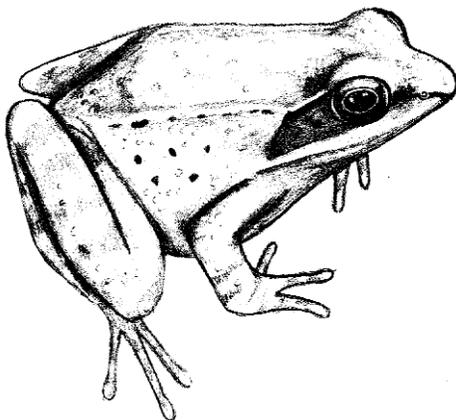
wood frog

Rana sylvatica

size: 3.5 to 8.3 cm (1-3 in.)

habitat: swamps

distribution: North America



raccoon

Procyon lotor

size: 60 to 90 cm (23-37 in.)

habitat: swamps

distribution: southern Canada and most of the United States



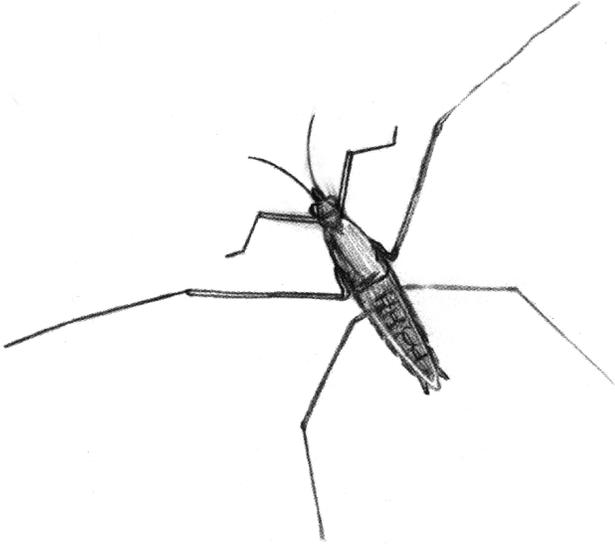
common water strider

Gerris remigis

size: 12.7 to 16 mm (0.5-.63 in.)

habitat: water surface

distribution: North America



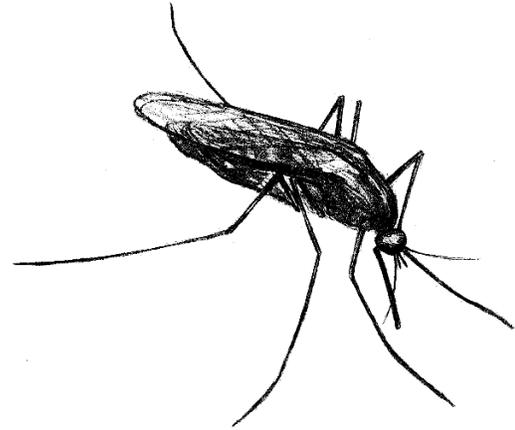
mosquito

Culex pipiens

size: 3.2 to 6.4 mm (0.13-0.25 in.)

habitat: swamps, lakes, ponds

distribution: North America



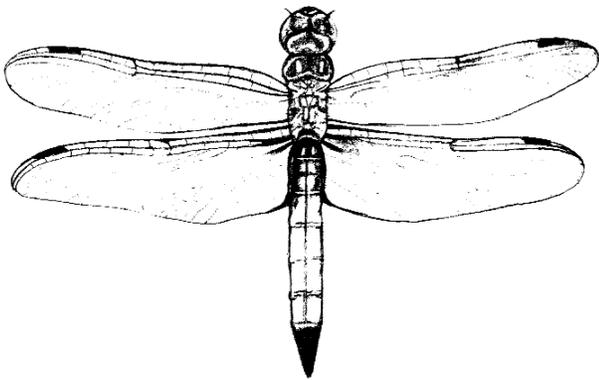
swift long-winged skimmer

Pachydiplax longipennis

size: 2.8 to 4.6 cm (1.1-1.8 in.)

habitat: ponds and streams

distribution: North America



marsh snail

Melampus bidentatus

size: 9.6 to 19 mm (0.38-0.75 in.)

habitat: salt marshes and mangroves

distribution: southern Canada to the West Indies

