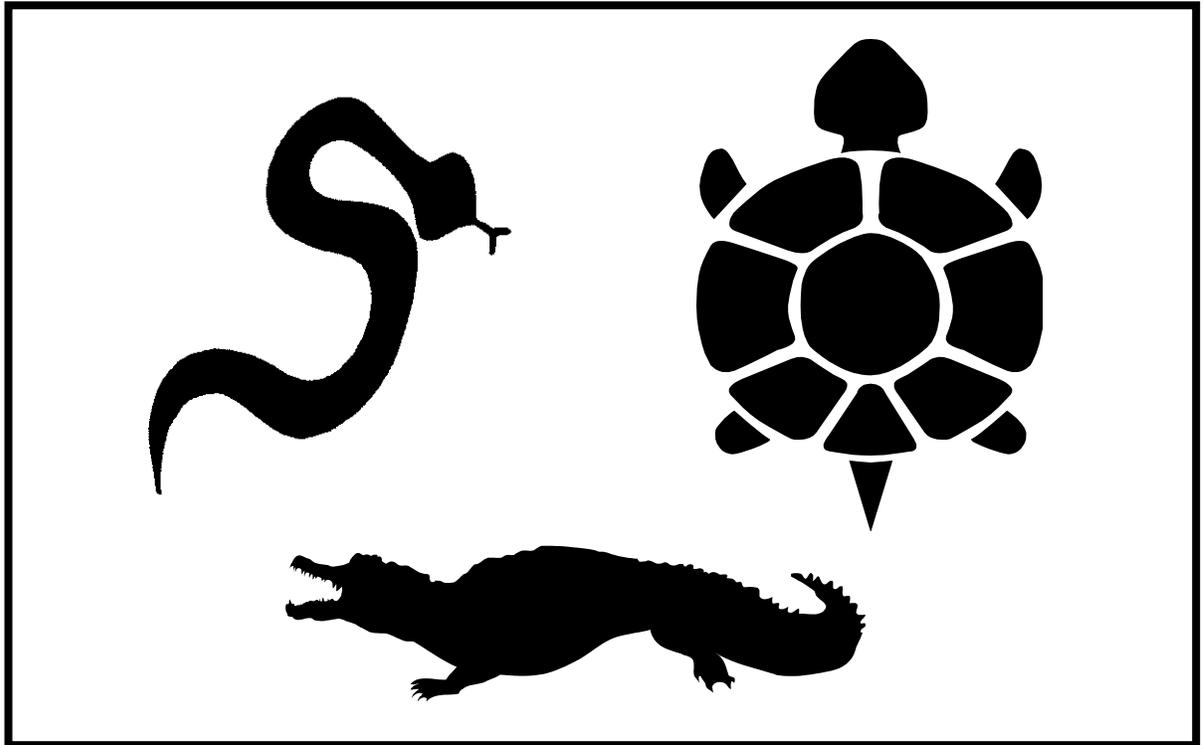


GATOR TALES

Driftwood Education Center



Class Description:

By holding snakes, touching alligators, and exploring our turtle enclosures, students will learn about these modern organisms with amazing adaptations. We will identify different species through the discovery process. Discussions and handling of these reptiles will lead students to identify and understand Georgia's indigenous species.

**Appropriate for all grade levels
Can tailor all classes to High School Students**

Driftwood Education Center
Po Box 20712 St. Simons Island, GA 31522
Phone: 912.638.3849 Fax: 912.634.0642
www.driftwoodee.org

Gator Tales

Table of contents and outline:

I. Introduction, overview, and assessment (10 minutes)

1. Allow students a minute to look around the room.
2. Present the students a brief overview of the class.
3. Assess what students already know about reptiles.

Concept 3

II. Main Objectives (70 minutes)

1. Venn Diagram Activity
2. Analyze and list characteristics of reptiles
3. Discover adaptations of gators while touching
4. Discover adaptations of turtles while holding a turtle.
5. Discover adaptations of snakes

Concept 1, 2, 3 – Outcome 1, 2, 3, 4

III. Conclusions and Wrap-up (5 minutes)

1. Review of what students learned
2. Answer any questions.
3. Recognize reptiles as an important part of the local community.

Florida Performance Standards met

5th Grade: SC.F.1.2 The student describes patterns of structure and function in living things.

6th-8th Grade: SC.G.1.3. The student understands the competitive, interdependent, cyclic nature of living things in the environment.

Concepts:

Focal points of this class are:

1. Scientists use the taxonomic system to classify all living organisms.
2. Animals have behavioral and physical adaptations that help them to be successful in their environment.
3. Awareness and knowledge can lead to the appreciation and respect of our natural environment.

Outcomes:

Upon completion of this class, students will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast reptiles and amphibians.
2. Identify and understand the difference between venomous and non-venomous snakes, alligators and crocodiles, and types of turtles.
3. Explain physical and behavioral adaptations of indigenous reptiles.
4. Touch and hold several types of reptiles

Georgia Performance Standards met or exceeded:

5th Grade:

1. **S5CS8. a:** Scientific investigations may take many different forms, including observing what things are like or what is happening somewhere, collecting specimens for analysis, and doing experiments.
2. **S5L1.** Students will classify organisms into groups and relate how they determined the groups with how and why scientists use classification.

6th Grade:

1. **S6CS2.** Students will use standard safety practices for all classroom laboratory and field investigations.

7th and 8th grade:

1. **S7L4.** Students will examine the dependence of organisms on one another and their environments.
2. **S7L5.a.b.c:** Students will examine the evolution of living organisms through inherited characteristics that promote survival of organisms and the survival of successive generations of their offspring.

S. Carolina Performance Standards met

5th Grade: Inquiry IB1. Compare, sort, and group concrete objects according to two attributes.

6th Grade: Life Science IIC An organism's behavior evolves through adaptation to its environment.

7th and 8th grade: Life Science IIB1. Contrast warm-blooded and cold-blooded animals' mechanisms to control their internal environment.