



Visit Lucas Miller's Website at:
www.lucasmiller.net



Lucas Miller

“The Singing Zoologist”

Grades: K-6
Assembly Performance

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

With a degree in zoology, an electrifying stage presence, and an outrageous sense of humor, Lucas Miller celebrates nature with interactive songs, stories, and puppetry.

Grades K-2 are enchanted with his songs about Monarch butterflies, skunks, snakes, animal defenses, and Texas habitats.

Grades 3-6 discover Texas' endangered species with Mr. Miller's songs about sea turtles, Houston toads, the wetlands, and the bald eagle's comeback from the brink of extinction.

Named “Best New Artist for Older Children” by the Children's Music Web Awards, Mr. Miller is one of Texas' premier performers for schools, libraries, and festivals. He also is a published author and creator of the Parents' Choice award-winning music CD “The Anaconda La Bamba”.

VOCABULARY

Anaconda - a large South American snake that crushes its prey in its coils

Migration - to pass from one region or climate to another usually on a regular schedule for feeding or breeding

Biomes - a major type of ecological community (ex. the grassland biome)

Defense - resistance against attack

Endangered species – a species in danger of extinction

Habitat - the type of place where a plant or animal naturally or normally lives or grows

Native - living or growing naturally in a particular region

Predator - an animal that lives by killing and eating other animals

Prey - an animal hunted or killed by another animal for food

Zoologist - a person who studies animal life

AUDIENCE ETIQUETTE

- LISTEN. Give the performer your full attention. You can laugh in the funny parts and applaud when there's a part you really like.
 - KEEP YOUR HANDS TO YOURSELF.
- JOIN IN when the artist asks for audience participation.
 - TALK ONLY when asked by the artist.
- BE PREPARED TO REMAIN throughout the program.

PRE-PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

GRADES K-2

Discussion

Discuss with your students the concept of habitats, how different animals use an environment's resources to meet their basic needs, and how they depend upon each other.

Visualization

- On a large piece of paper or poster board, have students list in columns at least three Texas habitats such as lakes, desert, woodlands, or beach. Invite them to draw a symbol of each habitat beside it, such as a tree beside "woodlands".
- Invite students to list animals that live in each habitat that you listed. They can draw a simple picture of each animal, if they like.
- Ask them to draw arrows between animals that depend upon each other, either as cohorts or as predator-prey.

Science TEKS: K-8 (A), 9 (A), (B), (C); 1st-8 (A), 9 (A), (B); 2nd-8 (A), 9 (A), (B)

GRADES 3-6

Discussion

Discuss with your students the concepts of ecosystems, adaptation, and endangered species.

Writing

Ask your students to write a descriptive paragraph about one of Texas' ecosystems, including the impact of the environment on the animals and their competition for the same resources.

Science TEKS: 3rd-8 (A), (B), (C), 10 (A), (B); 4th- 8 (A), (B), 9 (A), (B); 5th-5 (A), (B), 10 (A), (B), (C)

POST-PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

GRADES K-2

Invite your students to make up a story about an animal in one of the habitats that Mr. Miller discussed. You can write it for them on a large piece of white paper or poster board and they can illustrate it as you go along. For example, they could make up a story about Mike the skunk in a woodlands habitat who lost his food source. What could he do? How would he survive?

Science TEKS: K-9 (A), (B), (C); 1st-9 (A), (B); 2nd-9 (A), (B)

GRADES 3-5

Ask your students to write a persuasive paragraph convincing a logging company not to clear-cut a forest that is home to an endangered species of owls.

Science TEKS: 3rd-8 (A), (B), (C), 10 (A), (B); 4th-9 (A), (B); 5th-10 (A), (B), (C)