

Educator's Guide

Wild life is simple: leave it alone and it leaves you alone.

https://wildworldofanimals.org/

Our show's basic tenent is that Animals on earth are part of a working system: **Nature**. Nature as a whole cannot operate without the important jobs that animals perform. These indispensable components create a healthy and functioning ecosystem. These ecosystems are very sensitive to the stressful changes that can come about due to human intervention. No matter how big, small, cute, or ugly, all animals are important.

- Humans are as indebted to nature functioning properly as is the animal kingdom. A healthy ecosystem is necessary for a healthy world. Our sensitivity to the problems facing animals today can lead us toward a better Earth. Many things threatening our animal community are by-products of human expansion. As human population grows, the loss and destruction of natural habitat and living space occurs for our wild life neighbors.
- Humans must understand that the animals around us are neither Disney characters nor Hollywood villains. Our planet's wild life are not pets, they are necessary members of Earth's community, each doing its own job to make the world of nature work.
- People may not like, or may even be afraid of, some members of the animal world; but often, they benefit us the most. We'll talk about why such fears are unfounded by exploring this list:



- 1. Snakes
- 2. Arachnids
- 3. Bats
- 4. Bees
- 5. Apex predators, such as:
 - Big cats
 - Wolves
 - Sharks
 - Crocodilians



- Animal intelligence: its roots and its functions.
- Adaptations and the driving forces behind them.
- Classification and natural histories of the animals in the Wild World of Animals:
 - 1. What is the difference between a turtle and a tortoise?
 - 2. What makes an animal a primate?
 - 3. Specialized adaptations for different animals.
 - 4. Natural histories of certain species.
 - 5. Ecology as it relates to our Wild World of Animals.
 - 6. Biology related to the animals in our show.
 - 7. What is the difference between venom and poison.
 - 8. Birds are the closest living relatives to dinosaurs.
 - 9. Birds of prey and how they differ from the other bird species.

ACTIVITY

The stars of Wild World of Animals are not props and will not interact with audiences. During our outreach, we will share animal objects for audiences to actually handle as it is being discussed and described.

- Owl feather
- · Crocodile teeth
- Porcupine quill
- Shark teeth
- Turtle shell



GLOSSARY

Apex predators: predator at the top of a food chain upon which no other creatures prey.

Arachnid: an arthropod such as a spider or scorpion.

Carnivore: an animal that feeds on flesh.

Ecosystem: a complex community of organisms and their physical environment.

Habitat: the natural home of an animal, plant, or other organism.

Nature: the physical world and everything in it.

Omnivore: an animal that eats food of both plant and animal origin.

Primate: a mammal with flexible hands and feet, opposable first digits (thumbs), good eyesight, and large brain.

Tortoise: a turtle that lives on land.

NOTES

