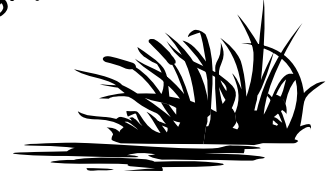


Wetland Education Family Science Night



Steps for planning evening...

At least 4 weeks prior to the event...

-*Select a date and time*

-*Make arrangements for location*

We used the gym for the gathering and presentation then moved into the cafeteria where the stations were all setup for the families.

-*Recruiting volunteers and helpers*

We invited graduate students from our local university, a representative from the local water board, a representative from local NERR project.

-*Collect door prizes*

Many of the local governmental agencies, non-profits, local business and merchants that promote wetlands and benefit from their existence are usually happy to provide something as a prize.

-*Notify local newspaper or media of upcoming event*

Week before...

-*Arrange for pictures to be taken*

-*Gather needed materials and make needed copies*

-*Send notices home to families inviting to event*

-*Include students in plans*

The children can be the best promoters of these events if they are excited and want to participate, (i.e., make name plates, write invites, practice "Live Theater")

Sequence of Events for evening

6:00-6:10 Opening and arrival

"Live Theater"

6:10-6:30 Power Point Presentation

6:30-7:20 Stations

7:20-7:30 Awarding of door prizes and thanks

Preparations and materials for stations...

Live Theater

Sign in sheet to keep track of attendance

Print Wetland Passports on cardstock

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Power Point Presentation

Download presentation at from *The University of Texas Marine Science Institute: Wetland Family Night* website:

http://www.utmsi.utexas.edu/outreach/family_night/vc.htm

Arrange for computer, screen and LCD

Stations

Station #1 Archeologist

Collect Artifacts and display in wading pool of sand.

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| +can of crab | binoculars |
| +commercial and sport fishing lure | +field guide to birds or wetland plants |
| film container | book of nature poetry |
| brochure from a hunting or fishing-guide | empty soft drink can |
| kayak trail map | kayak paddle |
| +duck stamp | +sport fishing or hunting license |
| | +canned shrimp |

Station #2 Computer Explore of LA

Obtain CD from USGS

Test CD in computers prior to event

Setup computers or laptops

Note: Will you need an extension cord?

Station #3 Food Web of Red Fish Bay

Copy onto cardstock, cut and laminate Redfish Bay Game food web cards

Station #4 Vocabulary Match

Copy onto card stock, cut and laminate vocabulary cards

Copy vocabulary key

Note: At this station we were fortunate enough to have a local university set up a model wetland for us complete with plants and critters.

Station #5 Filter System

Gather needed materials, arrange for disposal of leftover and used materials.

Note: At this station we invited the local water board to set-up a display explaining how our water treatment center works.

Station #6 Wetland Metaphors

Collect objects and copy list of functions

Station #7 Local NERR project

Check with nearest NERR project for poster and possible representative.

Station #8 Fish Fractions

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Copy fish pictures onto cardstock, bag into ziplock bags, write questions to match bag of fish

OR

Collect fish in sample jars from local wetland and make questions to match sample jars

Station #9 Nutria

Copy anticipation guides and key, provide pencils.

Station #10 Life Cycles of Mosquitoes

Copy sets of sequence cards onto cardstock and cut apart.

Note: Nice if you can have water samples with mosquito larva available for viewing.

Station #11 Pond Water

Gather scopes, pipettes, chambers (or slides), and fresh pond water with living plankton.

Note: We were given brine shrimp by one of the graduate students so students had some lively viewing.

Station #12 Create a bird

Copy bird body parts onto transparency and cut apart, make copy of a fact sheet on beak, feet and leg types or use a poster explaining specific bird adaptations.

Station #13 Wetland Habitats

Copy Wetland Habitats Flow Chart and activity cards from *WOW The Wonders of Wetlands, An Educator Guide*.

Station #14 Take a Peek at the TEKS

Make copies of student TEKS checklists for grade 3-5 Science, Language Arts and Math.

Downloadable forms available at <http://grate.home.texas.net/TEKS/> for grade 3-5 Science, Language Arts and Math.

List of Stations

Station #1 Archeologist

Station #2 Computer Explore of LA

Station #3 Food Web of Red Fish Bay

Station #4 Wetland Vocabulary Match

Station #5 Filter System (Water treatment center representative)

Station #6 Wetland Metaphors

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Station #7 Local NERR project

Station #8 Fish Fractions

Station #9 Nutria

Station #10 Life Cycles of Mosquitoes

Station #11 Pond Water

Station #12 Create a Bird

Station #13 Wetland Habitats

Station #14 Take a Peek at the TEKS

After event...

Clean-up.

Return materials.

Thank volunteers and donators.