



Natural Resource Educational Activities October/December 2008

The McKenzie River Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest invites you to participate in Natural Resource activities presented by Juan-Carlos Valarezo, visiting Wildlife Biologist from ECUADOR.

Activities are free of charge and may be conducted in Spanish, English, or both at your school or community organization meeting place.

Contact us soon to reserve a program date!

Email: jvalarezo@fs.fed.us,
Office Phone: 541-822-7269

Some activities may have assistance by other wildlife biologists (Ruby Seitz, Melissa Heitmann, and others).

2008 Natural Resource Activities

Sally/Sammy the Snag

Grades: Preschool-2nd Grade

Time: 30-45 minutes depending on grade

Sally is a Douglas fir tree that has been hit by lightning and is now "just a snag" or standing dead tree. Students will learn through an interactive puppet show how snags are important for wildlife and how they help to maintain a healthy forest. Program includes more than 12 wildlife puppets.

Interview with Juan the Woodpecker

Grades: Preschool- 2nd Grade

Time: 30-45 minutes depending on grade

Juan is a human sized woodpecker that is available to be interviewed by your students! He will give a short talk and then field questions from the students. Students will learn about the life of this extraordinary bird.

Tropical Forests in Concert

Grades: 3rd-6th Grade

Time: 45 minutes (Power Point presentation)

Tickets are still being sold for the best recordings of Tropical Forest sounds! Learn about Tropical Forests through the orchestra of sounds produced there. Students will learn what tropical forests are, where they are located and why they are important.

Rediscovering the habitat of the Galapagos Petrel in Ecuador

Grades: 7th, 8th and High School

Time: 45 minutes (Power Point presentation)

The Galapagos Petrel is an endemic and endangered sea bird. Between 2005 and 2006, Santa Cruz Island was explored by a group of biologists who investigated the endangered bird's presence on the island. Almost 400 new nests were discovered! This presentation could be of special interest to science/ biology classes.

A Galapagos Adventure

Grades: All grades

Time: 45 minutes (Power Point presentation)

Explore the wonders of the Galapagos Islands in Ecuador. Students will learn how these Islands formed and why they are so unique. See the exploding volcanoes, blue footed boobies and giant tortoises that make this archipelago one of the world's most famous Island chains.

Wildlife Trees

Grades: All grades

Time: 30- 45 minutes depending on grade (Power Point presentation)

Enjoy this talk about the many ways that animals use trees. For many animals, dead trees in the forest are as important as live ones. Students will learn the value of snags and down logs. Program aligned with National Education Science Standards.

Skulls, Antlers, and Horns

Grades: All grades

Time: 30- 45 minutes depending on grade (Power Point presentation)

Valuable information can be learned about animals from their skulls. Students will learn natural history facts about several animals through the use of skulls, antlers and horns in this exciting power point presentation. Program aligned with National Education Science Standards.

A Day as a Wildlife Biologist

Grades: All grades

Time: 30- 45 minutes depending on grade (Power Point presentation)

Students will learn what it is like to be a wildlife biologist. They will explore different types of field work like managing habitats and researching wildlife. Students will also compare how this profession has changed over time. Program aligned with National Education Science Standards.

Field trips to Willamette National Forest

Grades: All grades welcome

Time: 1-3 hours

Come one; come all for a wild adventure! Students will discover the wonders of an Old Growth Grove at the Delta Nature Trail. This field trip can also be tailored to specific concepts if requested in advance. Bird watching activities can be developed as well as games that focus in natural resources.

Video Presentations

Palmas & Loros

Duration: Total 45 minutes including 15 minute video. Language: Spanish

This video is ideal for Spanish classes at the Middle School and High School level. In 2007 this video was shown as part of a national campaign focused on the conservation of two endangered parrots in Ecuador. The video shows general aspects of the two bird species, their relationship with the Wax Palm tree and the ancient traditions of harvesting the Wax Palm during the Holy week. Following the video there could be a short discussion as well as a session for questions by students.

The Galapagos Islands

Duration: Total 45 minutes including 24 minute video. Language: Spanish

This video is ideal for Spanish classes at the Junior High and Senior High School level. The video covers the formation of the Galapagos Islands and the unique wildlife residing in this unparalleled marvel of the world. The video was made by local residents, and is not a National Geographic production. Following the video there could be a short discussion as well as a question/answer session.

Note: Please, if you have any specific requests do not hesitate to contact us to see what we can do to accommodate your lesson plans and discussion topics.