

Habitat Shuffle

Musical activity with a “Rap Beat”

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Objectives:

Students will study and learn about animals and plants in the natural environment and present that information to others in a “rap beat” context.

Materials Needed:

Chorus and verses listed on this sheet. “Rap” beat music and tape recorders are optional.

Procedure:

Remember the Super Bowl Shuffle? Now you can do the Habitat Shuffle! Divide your class into six groups, assigning each group a verse from this sheet. Everyone does the chorus between verses. The challenge is for each group to make up their own verse for an animal or plant (or anything required in a habitat) not already listed on this sheet. The verse should be factual; after all, this is a learning experience. For this reason, the students may need to do some research before preparing their verses. Each group will perform two verses - the one assigned and their original verse.

Chorus:

We are the world’s nature crew,
checking it out, doing it for you...
We’re so bad, we know we’re good,
living in field and river and wood...
You know that we’re not doing it for fun,
we do it for nature and everyone...
Now we’re not here looking for trouble,
we’re just here to do the habitat shuffle.

Verses:

Eagle

They call me an eagle, I like to fly,
high over the trees right through the sky...
I’m a predator looking for prey,
I live in the trees and hunt all day...
Now I’m protected, my numbers are growing,
only because the people are knowing...
But I’m not here to cause no trouble,
I’m just here to do the habitat shuffle.

Rattlesnake

Now I’m a rattler, a poisonous snake,
if you come upon me, I’ll make you shake...
I’ll mind my own business if you leave me alone,
but I’m out to get you if you walk on my home...
I eat the creatures that pass on by,
my venom kills them and that’s no lie...
But I’m not here to cause no trouble,
I’m just here to do the habitat shuffle.

Beaver

I’m a beaver, I’m pretty okay.
I work all night and I sleep all day...
I chop down trees using teeth and feet.
my dams and lodges look pretty neat...
I live by the water eating my bark.
if you disturb me, my tail will spark...
But I’m not here to cause no trouble.
I’m just here to do the habitat shuffle.

Toad

I’ll give you a hint, I’m brown and bumpy,
I move pretty quick, I’m kind of jumpy...
I eat mosquitos and bugs and flies,
I’ve got a loud voice and two big eyes...
Now don’t confuse me with Mr. Frog,
cause I’m a toad and cool, that’s all...
But I’m not here to cause no trouble,
I’m just here to do the habitat shuffle.

Fieldmouse

Well I’m a rodent, they call me a mouse,
any old crevice can be my house...
I’m always hunted by predator dudes,
I guess I’m a tasty morsel of food...
I run around with my tail and ears,
freezing whenever predators appear...
But I’m not here to cause no trouble,
I’m just here to do the habitat shuffle.

Squirrel

Well I’m a squirrel and I live in a tree,
my brother, my father, my momma and me...
All summer long we gather our nuts,
then when winter comes we fill our guts...
I like to build my nest in a tall oak tree.
to keep predators from my family and me...
But I’m not here to cause no trouble.
I’m just here to do the habitat shuffle.

Variation:

Precede each verse with introductory lines, such as:

Eagle, eagle, how do you do,
we want to learn more about you...

Rattlesnake, rattlesnake, how do you do,
we want to learn more about you...