



Science Competencies and Activities

Grade 4

Analyze nature in terms of systems (a system is an organization of related objects that form a whole).

Competency Goal 1/Objective 1.01: Evaluate living and non-living things that affect animal life.

Competency Goal 1/Objective 1.03: Determine animal behaviors and body structures that have specific growth and survival functions in a particular habitat.

Location: Deer Park

Activity: Prior to the visit to Tweetsie, identify the types of animals which live in the North Carolina mountains.

(Teacher note: deer, squirrels, goats, sheep, llamas, horses, black bears, foxes, wolves, turkeys)

Visit Deer Park at Tweetsie and make a list of animals which reside there.

Describe their habitat (hilly, some trees, fences with room for movement).

Vocabulary:

systems

habitat

classification

survival functions

adaptation

Competency Goal 2/Objective 2.01: Describe the composition of a mineral.

Tweetsie Location: Gem Mine

Activity:

- Review the composition of minerals.
- Examine sample of minerals.
- “Pan” for “gems.” Students compare gems and try to identify the gem by using student-devised rules of identification.

Competency Goal 2/Objective 2.05: Assess the uses of rocks and minerals.

Location: Return trip to school from Tweetsie.

Activity: Students observe how rocks are used in the area passed enroute to school.

(Teacher note: rock walls, walkways, houses, churches, bridges, signs, tunnels, river rocks, etc.)

Vocabulary:

composition

uses of rocks
and minerals

igneous

sedimentary

metamorphic