

Teacher's Guide for APPLESEEDS[®] *Exploring the Everglades*

February 2007

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MATERIALS

February 2007[®] issue: **Exploring the Everglades** ; chart paper, markers, writing paper, crayons or colored pencil, blank transparencies; transparency markers, overhead, computer; Internet access

BRAIN STORM

Ask the students what they know about the Everglades. Write on chart paper and post in room.

GEOGRAPHY

Using a road map of Florida locate the Everglades. (http://www.this-town.com/images/mapof_florida.jpg)

What ways can you get to the Everglades? What roads run through the Everglades? Are there any towns in the Everglades? If so, what are their names?

Is there a difference between the Everglades and the Everglades National Park?

Using a blank transparency, trace the map of the Everglades marking any important roads, towns, landmarks.

READING and RESEARCH

Divide students into six small groups to read and discuss the articles: (possible division)

A Day in the Everglades p.3-6

It's All About the Water p7-9 and The Everglades "River of Grass" p.10-11

The Founder and the Guardian of Everglades National Park p.12-17

A Seminole Creation Story p.18-19 and Footprints in the Everglades p.20-21

King of the 'Glades p.22-24 and Aliens Attack! p.25-27

Picture Post Cards p. 28-31

Create a diorama to go along with their readings.

After the groups have read and discussed the articles, have the students research the Everglades on the Internet. Take notes that will expand what they learned from the articles. Have them decide on a foldable to create a report and visual on that tells the important information they have learned about the Everglades from the articles and the research.. Using this information create the foldable that each group will use for their presentation. Use chart paper to make the foldables.

WRITING

In the same small groups, have the students create a fantasy fiction story on how an animal or reptile came to live in the Everglades. Be sure to include facts about the Everglades. Illustrate the story. Share with the class.

Create a fictional animal that could live in the Everglades. Write a description of the animal/reptile as to what it looks like, what features would help it survive in the Everglades, what does it eat, what are its enemies, and what habitat within the Everglades would be a good home for it? Illustrate your animal. Illustrate your animal within the habitat.

Create an ACROSTIC poem about the article read by the student. For example: if you read about ALIENS ATTACK, use the word ALIENS. This can be an individual, pair, or small group activity. Write it on large white or pale colored construction paper.