

MAXINE ROFRANO, PHD, SANCTUARY DIRECTOR

MINNIE BURKE, EDUCATION COORDINATOR

ABOUT US

Birds on the Brink Sanctuary (BOTB) is a forever home for birds and other living beings on the endangered or threatened list. Our facility and educational programs support the Georgia Standards of Excellence in the areas of Science. We offer guided fieldtrips for school groups, homeschoolers, and camps with diverse offerings for grades K through 12. We are confident that if we can “Excite a Child’s Curiosity” to discover, imagine, explore, and express their experience, we would have helped awaken their potential.

OUR SANCTUARY

Bentley's Butterfly Garden:

Our butterfly garden pollinator habitat is where students can learn about Georgia's magnificent native butterflies. Our habitat seasonally hosts real butterfly eggs, caterpillars, chrysalises, and butterflies. Students will learn about the following related topics:

- Structure and Function of a butterfly's life cycle.
- Positive environmental impact of Pollinator host plants.
- The effects of habitat changes on the endangered Monarch and other butterfly species.

Macaw Parrots Rainforest Flight:

Students can view Macaw parrots in motion as they fly in our state-of-the-art 40-foot flight area. Students will learn about:

- Exotic birds and their natural environments.
- How parrots forage, sleep, and play to bust boredom and survive in the wild.
- Human impact on threatened and extinct species of birds.

OUR SANCTUARY (CONT.)

The Hatch Hut:

Located in our Science Discovery Center, our Hatch Hut teaches students about Animal, Earth, and Space Science using the latest technology. Through Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, High Definition 3-D, and Artificial Intelligence students will learn about various 3rd grade Core Ideas including:

- Earth and Earth's Materials
- Adaptation
- Conservation of Energy and Energy Transfer
- Structure and Function
- Human Impacts on Earth Systems

Mineral Rocks Exploration Area:

Our Fluorescent Rock Area is where students will discover, under a dark tent, the world of glowing minerals. Our mineral rock expert and guide will teach students all about:

- The formation of Rocks and Minerals.
- How to discover fluorescent mineral by using short, long, and medium light waves.
- The 4 types of luminescent characteristics in minerals, such as phosphorescent (glow in the dark).

Odd Couple Pavilion Live Animal Interaction:

The Odd Couple Pavilion is where we host live animal interactions and showcase Fiona and Gerty our beautiful Ambassador Parrots. Children have the option to just pet a parrot or have one perch on their arm. Students will discover:

- The brain power of parrots - as Gerty shows her favourite tricks.
- How the various structures of a bird's body are used in survival. Learn how they see, grasp objects, fly and find food.
- The beautiful habitats around the world where parrots live and have evolved.

BENTLEY'S BUTTERFLY GARDEN

Topics: Rocks and Soils of Georgia

LS4.C Adaptation

- Changes in an organism's habitat are sometimes beneficial to it and sometimes harmful. For any particular environment, some kinds of organisms survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all.

Topics: Life on Earth and Heat

LS1.A Structure and Function

- Plants and animals have both internal and external structures that serve various functions in survival.

Topics: Pollution and Conservation

ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems

- Individuals are doing things to help protect Earth's resources and environments. For example, they are reducing the amounts of material they use and regulating sources of pollution such as emissions from factories and power plants or the runoff from agricultural activities.

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Topics: Rocks and Soils of Georgia

ESS2.E: Biogeology

- Living things affect the physical characteristics of their regions (e.g. plants' roots hold soil in place, beaver shelters and human built dams alter the flow of water, plants' respiration affects the air) Many types of rocks and minerals are formed from the remains of organisms or are altered by their activities.

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Performance Expectation for S3L1.

- Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the similarities and differences between plants, animals, and habitats found within geographic regions (Blue Ridge Mountains, Piedmont, Coastal Plains, Valley and Ridge, and Appalachian Plateau) of Georgia.

Topics: Pollution and Conservation

ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems

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Topics: Rocks and Soils of Georgia

ESS1.C The History of Planet Earth

- Earth has changed over time. Understanding how landforms develop, are weathered (broken down into smaller pieces), and erode (get transported elsewhere) can help infer the history of the current landscape. The presence and location of certain fossil types indicate the order in which rock layers were formed.

ESS2.A Earth Materials and Systems

- Rainfall helps shape the land and affects the types of living things found in a region. Water, ice, ... break rocks, soils, and sediments into smaller particles and move them around.

ESS2.C The Roles of Water in Earth's Surface Processes

- The downhill movement of water as it flows to the ocean shapes the appearance of land.

ESS2.E: Biogeology

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LS4.A Evidence of Common Ancestry and Diversity

- Fossils provide evidence about the types of organisms (both visible and microscopic) that lived long ago and also about the nature of their environments. Fossils can be compared with one another and to living organisms according to their similarities and differences

LS4.C Adaptation

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Performance Expectation for

GSE: S3E1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the physical attributes of rocks and soils.

S3E2. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information on how fossils provide evidence of past organisms.

S3L1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the similarities and differences between plants, animals, and habitats found within geographic regions (Blue Ridge Mountains, Piedmont, Coastal Plains, Valley and Ridge, and Appalachian Plateau) of Georgia.

Topics: Life on Earth and Heat

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HATCH HUT (CONT.)

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Topics: Pollution and Conservation

ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems

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MINERAL ROCK EXPLORATION AREA

Topics: Rocks and Soils of Georgia

ESS2.E: Biogeology

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GSE: S3E1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the physical attributes of rocks and soils.

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LIVE ANIMAL INTERACTION

Topics: Life on Earth and Heat

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