



## *Lesson Plan for Animals of Alabama*

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Grade Level</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● K-12             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ With adaptations appropriate to the grade you are teaching.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Alabama Curriculum Standards</u></p> <p><b>K.5.</b> Construct a model of a natural habitat (e.g., terrarium, ant farm, diorama) conducive to meeting the needs of plants and animals native to Alabama.</p> <p><b>3.11.</b> a. Construct explanations that forming groups helps some organisms survive.c. Categorize resources in various habitats as basic materials (e.g., sunlight, air, freshwater, soil), produced materials (e.g., food, fuel, shelter), or as nonmaterial (e.g., safety, instinct, nature-learned behaviors).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>National Curriculum Standards</u></p> <p><b>K-4 Life Science:</b> Organisms and their Environments; Science in Personal and Social Perspectives: Changes in Environments</p> <p><b>5-8 Life Science:</b> Populations and Ecosystems, Diversity and Adaptations of Organisms</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Core objectives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To teach students about the varied wildlife of the state of Alabama.</li> <li>● To teach about science in a fun but still relevant way.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Background Information Needed</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● An understanding of the vast biodiversity of the state of Alabama.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Resources</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The resource guide titled “Animals of Alabama”</li> <li>● The Encyclopedia of Alabama  <a href="http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org">http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org</a></li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>1. Introduction:</u></p> <p>Have the students name their favorite types of animals. Develop some type of creative rendering for this such as a illustration. Show how these animals, or similar animals, can be found in Alabama. This should take 15-20 minutes.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>2. Research opportunity:</u></p> <p>Allow the students to explore the introduced topics at their own pace. Provide a relevant goal for this research time, such as to distribute the animals based on habitat, or biological traits. This section should be about 20 to 25 minutes long.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>3. Activity:</u></p> <p>Please choose an appropriate activity or activities as provided in “ Animals of Alabama: Activities”. You should spend about 15 to 20 minutes on this part of the class.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>4. Discussion:</u></p> <p>Open a class discussion about the different types of animals found in Alabama. Allow for questions and answers by students. Guide their learning towards what you need them to learn, but try your best not to stifle their creativity. This should last around 20 minutes.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>5. Conclusion:</u></p> <p><b>For younger students</b> have them place their animal on the map of Alabama. This will teach them about the biogeographic diversity of their state in a representational way.</p> <p><b>For older students</b> reiterate how diverse species can be found right in the state they live in. Then have them connect animals found in Alabama to other animals found globally based on biological characteristics or habitat.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>6. Additional Enrichment:</u></p> <p><b>For younger students</b>, have them create a diorama of the Alabama animal of their choice. When this assignment is completed, have a “zoo” event in class.</p> <p><b>For older students</b> have them create a physical representation plus a powerpoint/presentation to the same effect.</p>