



Nature Discovery

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MLA Summer Reading Workshop

Water-themed Michigan Wildlife Programs

PRESENTATIONS

With over 40 species, and over 100 live animals in all, Nature Discovery maintains the largest collection of Michigan reptiles & amphibians in the state. The majority of these (frogs, salamanders, turtles, and some snakes) are highly dependent on water habitats for their survival. Any of a variety of these animals is brought before audiences of any age for up-close encounters. The live experience is combined with a strong conservation and stewardship message which also traverses the identification, life cycle, habitat, and ecology of each animal discussed. There is opportunity to handle and feed some of the animals, too.

The diversity of themes and titles for presentations is almost endless. The range of target audience ages, from pre-K to adult, as well as general audiences, is easily traversed. Below is a list of presentations with some basic titles.



MICHIGAN TURTLES

We are the only facility in the state that houses all ten species found in Michigan. Each species can be shown and discussed in a one-hour presentation. For more audience interactive opportunities, make it 90 mins.

MICHIGAN FROGS

Up to 12 Michigan species are shown here and can be passed hand-to-hand through the audience in jars and small plastic cages. Selection of recordings from Nature Discovery's educational/environmental CD, *Frogs of the Great Lakes Region*, quickly makes participants aware that Michigan frogs say all kinds of things, but not one says *Ribbit*, as we are erroneously led to believe by the media.

MICHIGAN AMPHIBIANS

This presentation features about half of Michigan's frog species and another half dozen of the ten highly secretive salamander species found in the state. All specimens are available for audiences to pass hand-to-hand for up-close inspection.

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS OF MICHIGAN'S WETLANDS

Here's a mix of our collection of Michigan amphibians and turtles, plus a few snakes thrown in, that have ties to wetland habitats. The snakes are highly handleable and can be fed in front of the audience, too.

SIGHTS & SOUNDS OF MICHIGAN WETLANDS

In this combination of Powerpoint images, audio recordings, and live specimens, participants learn to identify various frogs, birds and other wildlife "by ear." For anyone who thinks "the frog says *ribbit*," and "the duck says *quack*," get ready for a rich audio smorgasbord that's educational, entertaining, and downright funny at times.

(Contact associations for the blind about this one.)



OTHER POTENTIAL TOPICS

Seldom Seen Wetland Wildlife (pp & live), Wetland Birds of Michigan (pp & aud),

The DNR Citizen Frog & Toad Survey (pp, live, aud), Aquatic Invertebrates (pp & live), Feeding Frenzy (live).

EXHIBITS

Host a special "Wetland Wildlife Day" (or portion of a day) with a live exhibit of reptiles & amphibians of Michigan wetlands. This set-up includes knowledgeable staff on hand to answer questions, and engage in discussion with visitors. It is highly interactive and popular with all ages, including adults. On request, a large tray of aquatic invertebrate life can also be set-up with a strong light/magnifier on a mounted swinging arm for up-close inspection.

Full exhibit: Twelve aquariums of Michigan frogs, salamanders, turtles and snakes, plus a large turtle pool with free-swimming turtles of many species. Highly interactive!

Partial exhibits: Michigan Turtles, Michigan Frogs, Michigan Amphibians.

PRICES

PRESENTATIONS: \$130/hr; \$150/ 90 min; \$100/hr for multiple hours on same day.

EXHIBITS

Full Exhibit 6 to 8 hrs: \$450;
For less than 6 hrs, \$250 for 2 hrs, then \$60 each additional hr.

Partial Exhibit 6 to 8 hrs: \$360;
For less than 6 hrs, \$180 for 2 hrs, then \$50 each additional hr.

MILEAGE FEES: Nature Discovery charges \$.50/mi for travel over 10 miles. We can give you a mileage figure at the time of booking.