



# Learn Gun Safety, Outdoor Ethics, and Wildlife Conservation with Barney



This book belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

A youth program that teaches Gun Safety, Outdoor Ethics, and Wildlife Conservation, presented by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Instructors Guide for  
**LEVEL THREE**  
**GRADES 4 & 5**



# FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is the state government agency in charge of making sure we all can enjoy and use our fish and wildlife. At the same time, the FWC has to make sure we don't use too much of these resources at once. That's called conservation.

Most importantly, however, the FWC makes sure people can hunt and fish safely. The FWC has hundreds of policemen, called "conservation officers," who work hard to catch people who break the law. Conservation officers also help rescue hunters and fishermen who get lost or hurt while out in the woods or on the water.

The FWC also has hundreds of scientists who try to learn all they can about our fish and wildlife, so we will be able to take care of them.

All the policemen and all the scientists in the world couldn't really make a difference, though, without the hunters and fishermen doing their part too by knowing the rules and obeying them. Obeying the rules is called practicing ethics.

When you hunt or fish, no matter if you are on land, freshwater or saltwater, it's important that you be safe and that you practice conservation and ethics. The purpose of this course is to show you how.

# NOTE TO THE INSTRUCTOR:

This information is designed to help teach students in grades 4 and 5 about gun safety, hunting ethics, and wildlife conservation. Objectives for the lessons, a list of materials needed, vocabulary words to introduce, and a suggested segment procedure to follow are outlined below to help you present “Learn Gun Safety, Outdoor Ethics, and Wildlife Conservation with Barney.”

## INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVE:

1. **GUN SAFETY:** This lesson should stress to the student never to touch a gun unless supervised by an adult.
2. **HUNTING ETHICS:** To review situations to help students determine right from wrong.
3. **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION:** To learn ways to respect the environment and everything in it.

## MATERIALS PROVIDED:

- ✓ Instructor’s Guide
- ✓ Video “Before you Hunt”
- ✓ “Helping Wildlife Elementary Workbook.”
- ✓ “The 10 Commandments of Gun Safety”
- ✓ “Wordsearch on Ethics”
- ✓ “ABC Code of Ethics”
- ✓ “Conservation Game Plan”
- ✓ Conservation Award Form
- ✓ Teacher Evaluation



## SUGGESTED VOCABULARY:

- **Conservation-** wise use of a resource
- **Environment-** all the things around us
- **Ethics-** studying right from wrong
- **Firearm-** tool which shoots projectiles by burning gunpowder
- **Hunter’s Code-** unwritten rules based on respect for what is safe and fair
- **Natural Resources-** things occurring in nature
- **Poachers-** those who take wildlife illegally
- **Pollution-** anything that makes the environment dirty or unhealthy
- **Responsibility-** expected to answer for your actions
- **Trespassing-** going on private property without permission

# INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURE:

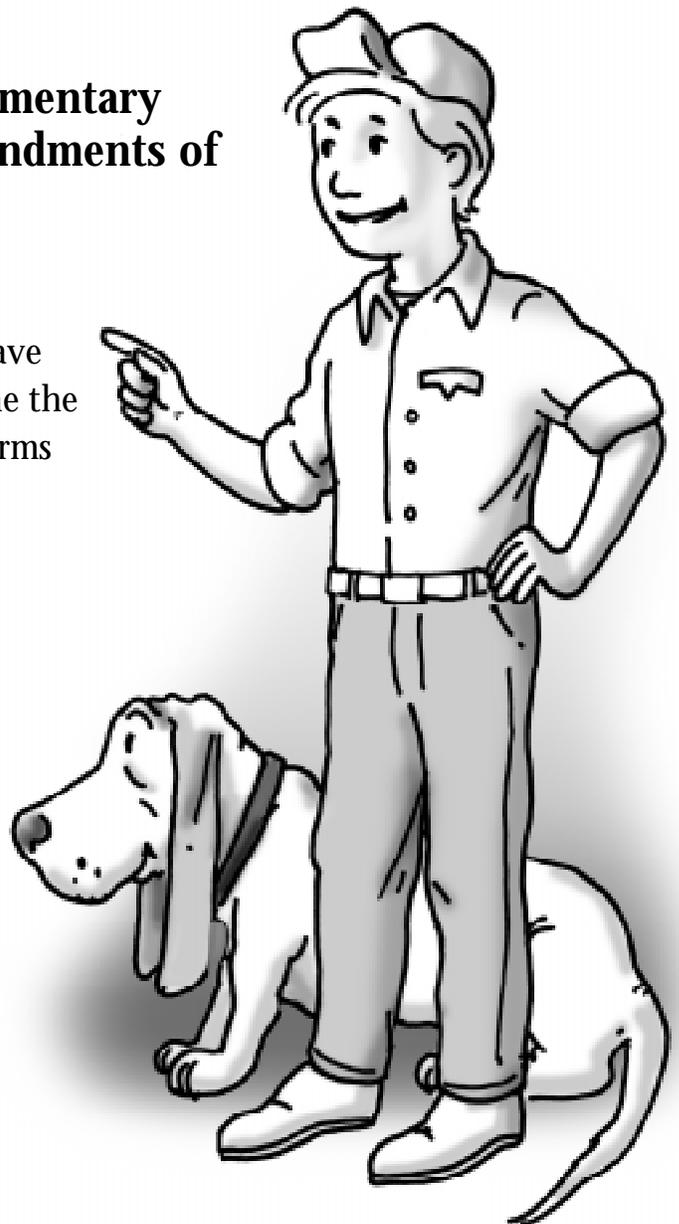
Lesson plans provided are to help the instructor with suggested ideas and activities to teach this lesson. They may be changed to meet individual instructors' needs. Although the time may vary, it is recommended that up to 30 minutes be spent on each lesson. Activities chosen to present will depend on the grade level. Teachers should review the materials provided and determine suitable material for each grade level. When working cooperatively, teachers may divide that material and teach at proper grade levels.

## BEFORE THE COURSE

Give tri-fold brochure to the students to take home. This brochure informs parents of the course and explains the contents.

## LESSON 1 AND 2- Gun Safety “Helping Wildlife Elementary Workbook” and “The 10 Commandments of Gun Safety”

1. Review appropriate vocabulary
2. Pass out the elementary workbook and have students put their names on it. Determine the amount of time needed to spend on Firearms Safety.
3. Review “The 10 Commandments of Gun Safety.” Discuss each commandment utilizing the guide.
4. Have students do the safety quiz. Discuss the student's answers.



# GUIDE TO THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

The 10 Commandments of gun safety cover just about every problem faced by shooters. Every firearm accident can be traced to a violation of one or more of these safety rules.

1. **WATCH THAT MUZZLE.** This is the one rule that has to have been broken for a firearm accident to have occurred. If the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction and an accidental or intentional discharge occurs, no one will be hurt.
2. **TREAT EVERY GUN WITH RESPECT DUE A LOADED GUN.** Anytime you handle a firearm always treat it as though it is loaded even if you have just checked and are sure it is not loaded. This will help you develop safe gun-handling skills.
3. **BE SURE BARREL AND ACTION ARE CLEAR OF OBSTRUCTIONS.** Shooting a firearm is nothing more than a controlled explosion. When the muzzle end of the barrel is clear, the bullet is able to be propelled out of the barrel. If the muzzle is clogged with dirt or another substance, the explosion is no longer controlled, and you have a bomb in your hands.
4. **BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET BEFORE YOU PULL THE TRIGGER.** Our eyes can play tricks on us, and things can be something other than what they appear to be. Once you pull the trigger and fire the gun, you cannot say "I'm sorry," and recall the projectile. Never play around with a firearm. Never point it at anyone even if you know it is not loaded.
5. **UNLOAD GUNS WHEN NOT IN USE.** Never keep a loaded gun around the house, in a vehicle, or while walking to or from your shooting or hunting spot. No one has ever been shot with an unloaded gun, although people have said they "Thought it was unloaded," when someone was shot.
6. **NEVER POINT A GUN AT ANYTHING YOU DO NOT WANT TO SHOOT.** Guns are mechanical devices and the safety mechanisms can break. You do not want to have to try to live with the memory of accidentally shooting a friend or loved one. Guns can provide a lifetime of enjoyable sporting activities when handled safely or a lifetime of misery if not.
7. **NEVER CLIMB A FENCE OR TREE OR JUMP A DITCH WITH A LOADED GUN.** Always be sure the gun is unloaded. Hand your gun to your hunting partner on the other side of the fence or ditch and then cross the obstacle. If you are using a tree stand, always unload the gun and tie a rope around the grip of the gun and pull the gun up to you with the muzzle pointing toward the ground.
8. **NEVER SHOOT A BULLET AT A FLAT HARD SURFACE OR WATER.** Bullets can ricochet and travel off in any direction, including bouncing back at the shooter if shot at a hard surface. Never shoot at cans, bottles, or other items floating in the water. A bullet could travel for a great distance and hit someone out of your sight.
9. **STORE GUNS AND AMMUNITION SEPARATELY.** Never store your ammunition with your guns. Always keep them separated and under lock and key.
10. **AVOID ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BEFORE OR DURING SHOOTING.** Never stay around anyone who has been drinking alcoholic drinks and handling a firearm. Also, remember that some drugs, including prescription drugs, can impair your movement or judgment. If the label reads, "Do not drive a vehicle or operate machinery while taking this drug," do not handle a firearm while taking this medication.

You may have noticed that firearm safety comes down to common sense, courtesy, and respect. If you think about what you are doing and show common courtesy while handling a firearm, you will earn the respect of your fellow hunters and shooters.

## LESSON 3- OUTDOOR ETHICS

1. Students will complete “Word Search on Ethics.”
2. After discussing right from wrong, students may complete the “ABC code of ethics” by filling in the blank letters and illustrating the code if they choose.

## LESSON 4- WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

1. Students should complete the poster “Conservation ABC’s” and, if time permits, create their own poster.
2. Have the students solve the animal mazes. Have them connect the dots and color the animals.
3. Complete “Barney’s Conservation Code” and encourage the students to make up codes of their own, or using the provided code, make up their own conservation messages.

**Remind students we must all do our part to protect our outdoors.**



## LESSON 5- (OPTIONAL) AWARDS CEREMONY

1. Show examples of student work.
2. Discuss relevant terms and lessons learned.
3. Write the students' names on the Conservation Award form.

Teacher Evaluation: Please take a few moments to fill out the postcard provided for evaluation. The postage has been paid for your convenience. Drop it into the mail today so we can evaluate our program.



**THANK YOU**

**for the vital part you played in teaching our youth “Learn Gun Safety, Outdoor Ethics and Wildlife Conservation with Barney.”**



# Wildlife Conservation Award

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Has completed Level Three of Barney Teaches Gun Safety,  
Wildlife Conservation, and Outdoor Ethics.



**Florida Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Commission**