



# Schoolyard Wildlife

## GUIDE ANSWER KEY

*The Schoolyard Wildlife Activity Guide & The Handbook to Schoolyard Plants and Animals of North Central Florida* are your guides to investigating common, local plants and animals right outside the classroom.

### PART ONE: Exploring The Schoolyard Wildlife Activity Guide

1. Each lesson/activity in the Schoolyard Wildlife Activity Guide is cross-referenced to six items. List them here.
  1. Curriculum framework topic
  2. Entries found in the handbook
  3. Grade Level
  4. Learning Style
  5. Academic Ability Level
  6. Science Process Skill

2. Find the **Curriculum Framework**. Then, list the three major categories of concepts covered in the Activity Guide.
  1. Organisms and environments
  2. Interactions between organisms
  3. Communities

3. Turn to the lesson **Web Weavers**. First, read the entire activity, and then do the following:

- a. Find the section on Spiders in the Handbook and list three different kinds of spiders you might discover by doing this activity.

1. Banana Spider
2. Thorn Spider
3. Crab Spider
4. Wolf Spider
5. Jumping Spider
6. Orchard Spider

- b. *Web Weavers* is well suited for Visual learners. (Visual

- c. The basic **Science Process Skills** used in *Web Weavers* are:

1. Observation
2. Communication
3. Classification
4. Measurement
5. Inference

- d. The **Behavioral Objectives** students will achieve in *Web Weavers* are:

1. Observe & describe the different orientations, placement & sizes of spider webs in plants.
2. Make inferences regarding the influence of web orientation, placement and size on spider survival.
3. Explain how humans directly influence survival

List the essential materials needed to conduct “Web Weavers”.

*Web Weavers worksheet, clipboard, meter stick or ruler and hand lenses*

- e. State the **Key Question** investigated in the activity *Web Weavers*.  
*Where do spiders choose to build their web and why?*

## PART TWO: Handbook to Schoolyard Plants and Animals of North Central Florida

1. Find the introduction on page 2 and read about the **Target Audience** and **Geographic Area** covered for this Handbook.

*The target audience is people who work with elementary school children.  
The geographic area is most useful for north-central Florida*

2. Using the **Table of Contents** find and read **Getting Started**. What three characteristics are common to all of the organisms in the Handbook?

*1. Commonly encountered in or near schoolyard  
2. Easily observed, interesting ecological or behavioral features  
3. Suitable for non-destructive manipulation and observation by children.*

3. Go to the section titled "**Background to Modern Natural History of North Central Florida**" and list the six major habitats described in the Handbook.

*1. Sand Pine Scrub  
2. Longleaf Pine and Turkey Oak Sandhill  
3. Slash Pine Flatwoods  
4. Hammock  
5. Cypress Swamp  
6. Prairie*

4. List the four major **Groups of Animals and Plants** covered by the Handbook. (Hint: start on page 9)

*1. Plants and their relatives  
2. Animals with backbones  
3. Animals without backbones and with six legs  
4. Animals without backbones (other than 6 legs)*

5. By using the **Index**, find the section on the **Cloudless Sulphur Butterfly** and list the five sub-sections under this animal entry.

*1. Description  
2. Natural History  
3. Interactions  
4. How to find them  
5. Activities  
Note: These are consistent for all entries.*

6. Go to the **Introduction** section for **Butterflies and Moths**. Look under **Interactions** and name one way that plants defend against caterpillar munching.

*Poison, stinging hairs or spines, mimicry*

7. Use the **Glossary**, beginning on page 108, define the term Thallus:

*Body of a plant that lacks distinct stem, root and leaf, such as liverwort*

8. List the three field guide series covered in the **Bibliography** on pages 113-115.

*1. Golden Nature Guide  
2. Golden Field Guide  
3. Peterson Field Guide*

9. On page 3 read about the **Role of the Handbook**. What is the name of the complementary book, which contains activities, correlated to the Handbook and the Sunshine State Standards?

*Schoolyard Wildlife Activity Guide*

**Be sure to read the Precautions section on page 5 before taking your students on an outside investigation. Have fun!**

