

Sandy Beck, Education Director

Sandy Beck, who has served as St. Francis Wildlife's education director since 1989, presents our Wild Classroom programs.

With grant funding from the Florida Advisory Council on Environmental Education and the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, she created unique classroom programs and instructional materials: *Conserving Florida Wildlife*, an interdisciplinary curriculum guide and *Wild Words for Wild Wings*, which combines birding, poetry, visual arts and technology.

Ms. Beck has presented at numerous professional conferences, from the Florida Council of Teachers of English (FCTE) to the League of Environmental Educators of Florida (LEEF).

She received the Leon Association of Science Teachers' Excellence in Science Teaching Award, was chosen the Academic Resource Center's Teacher of the Year, and in 2009 the TCC Women's History Month Committee honored her with their annual Women's History Month award.

A freelance writer, Ms. Beck is also a regular contributor to the *Tallahassee Democrat*, *Florida Wildlife Magazine* and other publications.

- B.S. Elementary Education, Florida International University
- M.S. English Education, Florida State University
- Permitted to possess wildlife by U.S. Fish & Wildlife, the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission and Georgia DNR.

What Teachers, Students and Others Say

What a terrifically positive impact your birding programs have had on our students!

Sigrid Fain, Science Resource Teacher, Hartsfield Elem.

Thanks for the excellent owl presentation. The owl pellet activity was also fantastic.

Sherrie Shaner, Teacher, Chaires Elementary

Your very informative assembly was an enriching, educational experience for our students . . . and has had a positive impact on their views about wildlife.

Susan Brazier, Principal, Shadeville Elementary

Your owl program at the Lake Jackson Branch Library was one of the best programs we've ever had . . . informative and fun for all!

Sue Barnett-Quick, Librarian, Leon County Public Library



Dear Mrs. Beck,

I loved the barred owl the best. I loved when he hooted. I was surprised. It was so exciting. I will never forget it. I want to be a wildlife teacher.

Sarah,
Grade 4
Springwood Elementary

Plan Your Wild Classroom Program

Contact

Phone: 850.528.0823

Fax: 850.562.8542

Email: sbeck@wildclassroom.net

Internet: www.wildclassroom.net

Program Fees

- One Class (up to 25 students) - \$75 per hour
- Two Classes (up to 50 students) - \$100 per hour
- Groups of 51 - 100 children or up to 50 adults - \$150
- Groups of more than 100 children or more than 50 adults - \$250

For workshops, conferences and special events, please contact us to discuss your needs.

Travel Expenses

For programs in Leon Wakulla, Gadsden and Jefferson counties in Florida and south of I-84 in Thomas County, GA, add \$.50 per mile, round trip from I-10/U.S.

Highway 27. For programs at sites beyond these areas, add \$35 per hour for round-trip travel time.

Payment

Payment is due the day of the program. Purchase orders accepted from public schools. Program fees are used to help care for the Wild Classroom's permanently disabled birds and animals.



The St. Francis Wildlife Association is a local, non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of native wildlife through rehabilitation and public education since 1978.

Each year, St. Francis Wildlife rescues and cares for approximately 3,500 injured, orphaned and sick wild birds and animals, many of whom are victims of injuries or health problems directly related to humans, vehicles or pets. The goal is to return wildlife to their wild homes.

Unfortunately, some sustain permanent injuries and can not be released back to the wild. The Wild Classroom uses some of these wild birds and animals to help explain the challenges their species face and to nurture a personal connection with the natural world.

By increasing the public's understanding, appreciation and respect for wildlife and the environment, we can begin to reduce the numbers of wild animals who suffer and perhaps improve the world we share.

If you find sick, injured or orphaned wildlife, please contact St. Francis Wildlife at 850.627.4151 or www.stfranciswildlife.org.

The Wild Classroom



Unique environmental education programs feature permanently disabled wildlife from the St. Francis Wildlife Association.

www.WildClassroom.net



All Programs Include

- * Live animals, an experienced naturalist and audience participation at your site.
- * Multi-disciplinary lesson plans that will extend the magic of your wildlife program for days.

What You Can Do to Help Wildlife

Live native birds and animals help teach about their species, habitat problems and specific actions we can take to help Florida wildlife. Includes six-minute film about St. Francis Wildlife's work helping injured, orphaned and sick wildlife. **1 hour**

Radical Raptors

A magnificent owl, hawk, falcon and kite help teach students about the unique adaptations that enable birds of prey to master the skies and how we can help protect them. Touchable artifacts owl feet and talons, skulls, and skeleton and wings. Students examine feathers wingspans and more! **1 hour**

Owls Are the Tigers of the Sky

Three native species - the Great Horned, Barred and Screech Owls - help teach about the special adaptations that enable owls to be spectacular nocturnal hunters. Learn why these predators are called "Tigers of the Sky" and what we can do to help protect them. Includes 10-minute original film about North Florida's owls. **1 hour**

Nocturnal Animals

Learn about some of Florida's most secretive creatures and the wide range of adaptations that help them find food and avoid predators in the dark. Includes live, nocturnal animals: one or two owls, an opossum and a flying squirrel. **1 hour**

Amazing Adaptations

Each species has unique adaptations that enable it to survive. Careful observation of a live bird, mammal and reptile provides insight into their diet, habitat and the challenges they face in our ever-changing world. Hands-on activities also included. **1 hour**

The Wild Classroom

www.wildclassroom.net

Unique programs create a personal connection with our natural world for both children and adults.

Non-releasable wildlife offer children an opportunity to observe and learn about wildlife up close. Such encounters can spark a personal interest in and love for nature. Children who connect with wildlife are also more likely to act to protect wildlife and the wild spaces we share.

Whooo Ate Whooom?


Follow *Tigers of the Sky* or *Amazing Adaptations* with this popular hands-on workshop. A real owl helps teach students about her unique digestive system and the food chain. Then students dissect the owl's pellets and reconstruct the skeletons of her prey. 3-D rodent models and extension activities provided. Quality barn owl pellets available. **1 hour**

Snakes Alive!

Meet two non-venomous snakes. Learn about their natural history, adaptations that enable them to survive and how to safely coexist. Interactive components: Use a dichotomous key to identify common native snakes; learn how to distinguish native non-venomous snakes from similar-looking native venomous snakes; hands-on live snake encounter; examine snake skins with portable microscopes. **1 hour**

Wild Poetry

Students use live animals as inspiration for writing and illustrating original poems. Students' love of animals awakens hidden skills as they try out new poetic techniques and make the connection between observing nature and writing about it. **2 hours**



In a Barn Owl's Ear
 If I were in a barn owl's ear
 I could hear another owl's flight.
 I could hear the fire on the sun.
 I could hear a fish swimming
 in the ocean,
 a waterfall flowing,
 the earth spinning
 and the moon orbiting
 around the earth.
 George, Grade 2, Chaires Elem.

Introduction to Bird Watching

Live birds and "virtual birding" teach participants how to identify common Florida birds and use binoculars and field guides. Includes handouts, binoculars, field guides and outdoor birding activity. Second grade to adult. Suggestion: Combine with "Wild Poetry" program: www.wildclassroom.net/NOL/wildwords.html. **2 hours**

Reading With Wildlife – NEW!

Up-close wildlife encounters for your youngest animal lovers - pre-school through second-grade. After a short program introducing one or more live birds or animals, watch your students become ENRAPTURED as a story book comes to life with a special wild guest — the "star" of the story! Owl & Nocturnal Mammals programs can be combined. Each 1-hr. program includes wildlife, read-aloud stories and post-program lesson plans.



Reading With Owls - Includes two owls and two stories, such as *Owl Moon*, *Owl Babies*, *See How They Grow - Owl*, *Sleepy Little Owl* or *Screech Owl at Midnight Hollow*.

Reading With Redtails - Includes a Red-tailed Hawk and *Pale Male*, *Citizen Hawk of New York City*.

Reading With Nocturnal Mammals - Includes an Opossum and Flying Squirrel and story books, such as *Opossum at Sycamore Road* and *Flying Squirrel at Acorn Place*.

Teacher Workshops and Conferences

Includes live animals, hands-on activities and a wealth of classroom-tested, interdisciplinary lesson plans that will engage your students, develop critical and creative thinking skills and inspire them to become life-long stewards of our precious natural world.

Special Events and Club Meetings

Includes live birds of prey program presented by an experienced naturalist, information about St. Francis Wildlife's important work in our community (for more than 30 years) and your choice of one of our short films: *Owls Are the Tigers of the Sky* (about local owls) or *A Haven for Healing* (about St. Francis Wildlife). **1 hour**

