

How to Use the Wolf Discovery Trunk

The Defenders of Wildlife Wolf Discovery Trunk has been created by teachers for teachers. It is full of information and materials to guide you and your students on an exploration of the world of wolves, from biology and behavior to the long history of interactions between wolves and humans. Exactly what this trunk holds in store for you is detailed in the checklist on the next page.

The Teacher's Manual is the heart of the wolf education program. The manual contains **Hands-On Activities** (section 1); **Introductory Activities** (section 2); **Lesson Plans** and related materials (sections 3-7); a **Glossary** (section 8); lists of books, videos, websites and other **Additional Resources** (section 9) and an **Online Evaluation** (section 10).

The lesson plans are primarily geared to middle schoolers (Grades 6-9), but can be easily adapted for older and younger students as well as meeting the needs of diverse learners. The **Introductory Activities** (section 2) encourage students to assess what they know about wolves and to explore the origins of their thoughts and feelings about these fascinating animals. Articles 1-8 from the **Reading** lessons (section 3) can be assigned in advanced or read and discussed in class before implementing the lesson. Each of the eight short readings is followed by a "Check Out Your Reading Skills" self quiz to help students gauge their mastery of the material. The **Writing, Social Studies, Technology and Math** lessons (sections 4-7) delve into the biology of wolves, including the role of the wolf in the ecosystem, pack life, hunting, communication and the relationships between wolves and other canids, including domestic dogs. Students will also learn about wolf conservation and recovery around the nation. They will even have an opportunity to tackle the tough issues related to wolf conservation through a conflict resolution role-playing lesson. We suggest that you copy the **Glossary** (section 8) and distribute it to your class before beginning the curriculum.

The lessons include both individual and group learning activities and are designed to integrate reading, writing, social studies, math and technology into your science curriculum. Check the **Teacher Notes** box at the beginning of each lesson for the suggested grade levels, lesson duration, skills, vocabulary and other important information. Also note that the items needed for each lesson are listed in the **Materials** section of the lesson plans. Most of the materials are either in the trunk as noted or, in the case of items listed in bold, at the end of the lesson plan ready for copying.

Your feedback is important to the success of the Wolf Discovery Trunk and we value your input. Please take a few minutes to complete our easy to use **Online Evaluation** form (section 10).