



Where's the Wilderness Kid?

Introduction

Consie Powell, the illustrator for *Nature's Patchwork Quilt*, has hidden images of kids interacting with nature in some of the patchwork quilt pieces of the book. In this activity, children will find the hidden kids and discuss human activities that can be done in each habitat.

Materials Needed

- ◆ The book, *Nature's Patchwork Quilt*, 1 per group
- ◆ Post-It Notes, 1 pad per group

Key Concepts

- ◆ The environment provides humans with places for recreation and renewal.
- ◆ Humans make both positive and negative impacts on the environment.

Procedure

1. Brainstorm with the class some of the activities they like to do in nature. Then have them identify the habitat where the activities are done. For example, snorkeling (activity) in the ocean (habitat).
2. Divide the class into small groups and give each group a book and a pad of Post-Its. Have children put a Post-It on any pages where they find an illustration of a kid doing something in nature. Explain that some pages have more than one quilt piece that includes a kid. They should use a separate Post-It for each quilt piece.
3. When all groups are finished, go through the book with the whole class to identify all of the kids and their activities. Discuss how each activity relates to the habitat. Ask if they can be done in any other habitats.

Nature Connections

- ◆ Do a habitat survey of your school grounds, identifying the plants and animals. Invite a local naturalist to help you.
- ◆ Explore a habitat by playing one of the games from *Sharing Nature with Children* by Joseph Cornell such as Meet a Tree, Scavenger Hunt, Webbing, Predator-Prey, or Duplication.

Additional Resources

Many people who have dedicated their lives to helping the environment first learned to love nature through their childhood activities and experiences. You can read about some of these naturalists in the following books:

- ***Earth Heroes: Champions of the Wilderness***
by Bruce and Carol L. Malnor
- ***Earth Heroes: Champions of Wild Animals***
by Carol L. and Bruce Malnor
- ***Earth Heroes: Champions of the Ocean***
by Fran Hodgkins