



JBSWC: *Wildlife Ecosystems grades 4-5*

Introduction: Students will spend at least 50% of instruction time immersed in the JBS wetland, with a guided boardwalk tour focusing on how our wetland ecosystem supports animal life and journaling their observations. Students will build a food chain/web and investigate animal traits and adaptations by observing animal specimens in our popular mammal show.

TEKS	Learning & Skill Objectives
<p>Organisms & Environments (adopted 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> describe the cycling of matter and flow of energy through food webs, including the roles of the Sun, producers, consumers, and decomposers observe and describe how a variety of organisms survive by interacting with biotic and abiotic factors in a healthy ecosystem The student knows that organisms undergo similar life processes and have structures and behaviors that help them survive within their environments 	<p>Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> carrying capacity, limiting factors Blackland Prairie ecoregion and native vs. non-native animals food chain/web, interdependency of species adaptations & traits of wildlife for survival <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> wildlife observation nature journaling building food chains and webs identification of animal traits and characteristics

Summary:

- Blackland Prairie Ecoregion** - Students will learn about ecosystems and the Blackland Prairie ecoregion. They will be introduced to common native species and discuss the effects of non-native species.
- Limiting Factors** - Students will understand what wildlife need in order to survive in their habitats and how limiting factors can affect the carrying capacity of a habitat.
- Food Chains/Webs** - Students will learn about food chains vs. food webs and the interdependency of species in an ecosystem.
- Wildlife Observation** - Students will observe animal specimens and identify traits and adaptations that enable animals to survive in their environments.

