



RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Where Do Animals Live?

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from *Resources and the Environment Teacher's Guide* and for *Tillena Lou's Big Adventure*.

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This activity is part of the Resources and the Environment teaching unit. The *teacher's guide* may be used alone or with integrated unit components. The Resources unit is comprised of the guide, *Tillena Lou's Big Adventure* (storybook), and two supplements: *The Reading Link* and *The Math Link*. For more information on this and other educational programs, contact the Center for Educational Outreach at 713-798-8200, 800-798-8244, or visit <http://www.bioedonline.org/>

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Printed in the United States of America.

ISBN: 978-1-888997-67-5

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Teacher Resources from the Center for Educational Outreach at Baylor College of Medicine.

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The activities described in this book are intended for school-age children under direct supervision of adults. The authors, Baylor College of Medicine and the publisher cannot be responsible for any accidents or injuries that may result from conduct of the activities, from not specifically following directions, or from ignoring cautions contained in the text.

Development of My World and Me[®] educational materials was supported, in part, by the National Institutes of Health, National Center for Research Resources, grant number RR25 RR13454, and National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, grant number R25 ES10698. The opinions, findings and conclusions expressed in this publication are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of Baylor College of Medicine or the funding agencies.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

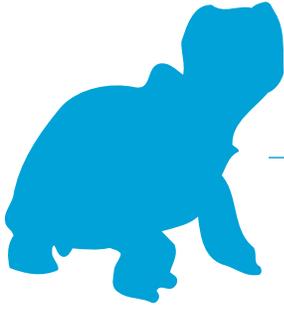
The My World and Me Project at Baylor College of Medicine has benefited from the vision and knowledge of scientists and educators from a wide range of specialties. Our heartfelt appreciation goes to William A. Thomson, PhD, Professor of Allied Health Sciences, and Family and Community Medicine and Director, Center for Educational Outreach, who has lent his support and expertise to the project.

Special acknowledgment is due to our affiliate in this project, the American Physiological Society (APS). We especially thank Marsha Lakes Matyas, PhD, and Katie Frampton of APS, for their invaluable reviews of draft materials and direction of field tests, focus groups, and dissemination activities in the Washington, DC area.

Special thanks go to the National Center for Research Resources of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for its support of the My World and Me project, and to the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH, for its support of classroom implementation of My World and Me materials in the Houston area.

We are grateful to the many classroom teachers in Washington, DC, and Houston, Texas, who participated in the field tests of these materials and provided invaluable feedback. We especially thank Rachel J. Cunningham, Wanda J. de Vries and Nannette M. Schultz at Whidby Elementary School in Houston for their contributions and suggestions.

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Where Do Animals Live?

Students listen and participate by filling in missing words as the teacher reads a silly poem about places where animals might live. The teacher should read and repeat the poem several times. Students draw pictures representing both their favorite nonsense lines from the poem and animals in more appropriate environments.

CONCEPTS

- Every living thing occupies a space within its environment.
- Most animals depend on the resources available within their environments to provide needed spaces.
- Humans depend on their natural environments, but they also construct places to meet their needs for safe, secure, comfortable spaces.

SKILLS

- Comparing and contrasting
- Communicating
- Identifying patterns
- Listening

TIME

Setup: 10 minutes

Class: 2 class periods

MATERIALS (see Setup)

Teacher Materials

- Copy of *Tillena Lou's Big Adventure* (available in PDF format in the Library section at <http://www.bioedonline.org>)

Materials per Student

- Crayons or markers
- Drawing paper



EXTENSION

Write more verses together and illustrate the new poems.

Although all animals and plants (and other living things) occupy physical spaces within environments, these spaces often serve different purposes from a human home. Plants are not mobile, so the spaces they occupy are determined by where the plant originally begins to grow. Plants survive in places that provide the necessary amounts of sunlight, water and nutrients, as well as protection from predators and disease.

Animals, of course, do move about. However, while a human needs a place to live—a home—many animals do not. Many animals build nests/ places to raise their young and then abandon those places. Other animals, such as bees or prairie dogs, build large colonies that serve the needs of many individuals. Often, animal spaces are used for protection from predators. Humans, on the other hand, need places to gather, eat, sleep, feel safe, store their belongings and carry out social activities.

SETUP

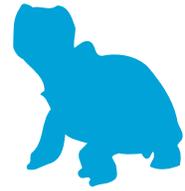
Obtain a copy or copies of *Tillena Lou's Big Adventure* (see “Materials,” right sidebar). Conduct this activity with the entire class.

PROCEDURE

1. Refer to the story, *Tillena Lou's Big Adventure*. Ask students, *What did Tillena Lou discover about the “people place” as compared to her environment?* Tell students that they will listen as you read a silly poem about places where animals live. They will follow the rhyming pattern to fill in the missing word and then make sense of the poem.
2. Read the poem to the students, leaving out the underlined words (last word of 2nd and 4th lines). Give the students opportunities to fill in the missing words as you read.
3. Give each student a large piece of drawing paper. Direct students to fold their sheets in half vertically. Encourage students to draw a picture of one of the animals in the poem in the “wrong” place and in the “right” place—on each half of the sheet. Or let students make up another ridiculous place for something to live and draw the two scenarios.
4. To get students started, you might ask them, *Does a fish live in a cereal dish? Why or why not? Could it?*



Where Do Animals Live?



What if you were a frog?
Could you live on a dog?
Would you live on the road
if you really were a toad?

What if you were a fish?
Could you live in a cereal dish?
Would you live underneath the sea
if you really were a bumble-bee?

What if you were a bear?
Could you live here, there or anywhere?
Would you give a house a whirl
if you really were a squirrel?

What if you were a duck?
Could you live in a pickup truck?
Would you really live on me
if you were just a tiny flea?

But what if you're really just a kid?
Could you live with a purple squid?
Or would you live in an old brown shoe?
Would that really ever do?

It really all depends on you,
how you live and what you do.
But a kid's got to have a house.
Even if it is shared with a mouse!