EXPEDITIONS

A fun and adventurous experience for budding explorers, EXPEDITIONS offers your students the opportunities to:

- Travel to Sky Ranch Expedition's Nature Center to observe reptiles, mammals, and arthropods.
- Determine the difference between learned behavior and inherited traits.
- Discover the meaning of a habitat and a niche.
- Learn the structures and functions of various animal parts.
- Compare and contrast compost samples and collect data on the stages of decomposition.
- Analyze the impact of man on the environment and see ecological succession firsthand.

Expeditions
TEKS Blueprint

		Color
S	Skulls	(yellow)
D	Decomposition	(red)
EI	Environmental Impact	(green)
R	Reptile Room	(purple)
A	Arthropod Room	(teal)
M	Mammal Room	(magenta)

TEKS	Student Expectation	S	D	EI	R	A	M	Readiness Supporting	Verb(s)	Level of Complexity
3.9 A	Observe and describe the physical characteristics of environments and how they support populations and communities of plants and animals within an ecosystem.	S	D	EI			M	Supporting	Observe, Describe	Low (remember)
3.10 B	Investigate and compare how animals and plants undergo a series of orderly changes in their diverse life cycles such as tomato plants, frogs, and lady beetles.			EI				Supporting	Investigate, Compare	High (evaluate)
4.7 A	Examine properties of soils, including color and texture, capacity to retain water, and ability to support the growth of plants.		D					Supporting	Examine	High (evaluate)
5.2 C	Collect and record information using detailed observations and accurate measuring.	S	D	EI	R	A		S. I. and R.	Collect, Observe	High (analyze)
5.9 A	Observe the way organisms live and survive in their ecosystem by interacting with the living and nonliving components.	S			R		M	Readiness	Observe	High (analyze)
5.9 B	Describe the flow of energy within a food web, including the roles of the Sun, producers, consumers, and decomposers.				R			Readiness	Describe	Medium (apply)
5.9 C	Predict the effects of changes in ecosystems caused by living organisms, including humans, such as the overpopulation of grazers or the building of highways.			EI				Readiness	Predict	High (create)
5.10 A	Compare the structures and functions of different species that help them live and survive in a specific environment such as hooves on prairie animals or webbed feet in aquatic animals.	S			R		M	Readiness	Compare	High (analyze)
5.10 B	Differentiate between inherited traits of plants and animals such as spines on a cactus or the shape of a beak and learned behaviors such as an animal learning tricks or a child riding a bicycle.				R		M	Readiness	Differentiate	High (analyze)

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Legend:
- S — Skulls
- D — Decomposition
- EI — Environmental Impact
- R — Reptile Room
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