

33rd Annual Give Wildlife a Chance Poster Contest



Open to Georgia students in K-5th grade



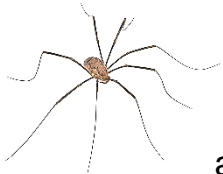
State Botanical Garden of Georgia
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



The [Georgia Department of Natural Resources \(DNR\)](#), [State Botanical Garden of Georgia](#) and [The Environmental Resources Network, Inc. \(TERN\)](#) encourage you and your students to participate in the **33rd annual Give Wildlife a Chance Poster Contest!** As part of DNR and TERN's "Kids for Conservation" initiative, this art contest provides a unique opportunity for kindergarten through fifth-grade students to explore the wonders of Georgia's native animals and plants through the 2022-23 theme: **Wildlife Tales: True or False?**



Discovering new information about wildlife can be really fun, especially when we learn about an animal's unusual characteristics or amazing behavior. Much of what we hear or read about is true. However, many commonly held beliefs are not proven by research and don't represent reality. This false information is also called a myth or misconception. Some untruths are relatively harmless while others may cause unnecessary fear or encourage harmful behavior.



For example, you may have heard that the harvestman (daddy long-legs) is one of the most venomous spiders but its fangs are too short to penetrate human skin. However, that statement holds several untruths. Daddy long-legs are arachnids but not spiders; they have one body segment instead of two. They don't have venom glands or fangs to bite you, and they're completely harmless to humans. Without that knowledge, you could become anxious when seeing a daddy long-legs and end up killing a beneficial invertebrate that eats plant pests and scavenges on dead insects.

By participating in the Give Wildlife a Chance Poster Contest, you can help students learn which information out there is true and which is false (or only partially true). Doing so will foster balanced, healthy views of the wildlife in your community and promote environmental stewardship. The Teacher Tips on the next page can help you get started!

We look forward to working with you and your students! If you have any questions, please visit georgiawildlife.com/PosterContest or contact one of the state contest coordinators:



Linda May – (706) 319-0211, linda.may@dnr.ga.gov

Audrey S. Mitchell – (706) 583-0894, astadler@uga.edu



Teacher Tips

Contest Rules: Start with a Local Contest at Your School



While following the **Poster Contest Rules and Guidelines**, instruct your students to design their own artwork based on this year's contest theme:

Wildlife Tales: True or False? Artwork should depict at least one identifiable animal or plant species native to Georgia. Students can highlight a wildlife myth and/or a fact that's amazingly true! Include a description on the **Poster Contest**

Entry Form, thereby demonstrating that the student understands their subject. Then arrange for a local competition of their artwork at your school or within your group (i.e., homeschool group, after-school camp, scout troop, etc.). School or group judges will select first-, second- and third-place winners (award ribbons and Give Wildlife a Chance certificates are available for free — refer to **Contest Awards** section for details). Participating schools or groups will then choose one first-place winner from each division and email photographs of the winning entries with accompanying entry forms to the State Botanical Garden of Georgia.

The deadline to compete in the state-level contest is **April 7, 2023**. State entries will represent one or more of the four division categories described in the **Poster Contest Rules and Guidelines** section. First-, second- and third-place winners will be chosen as state-level winners from each division level, and the winning artwork will be announced and showcased on Georgia DNR Wildlife Resources Division and State Botanical Garden media in May 2023.

Supporting Activity

Ask your students to brainstorm interesting things about wildlife they've heard or read about. Make a list and ask students if each statement is true or false. Do research if unsure. Here are some common beliefs for discussion:

- **An owl can turn its head all the way around (360 degrees).**
 - o FALSE. Owls can only turn their heads 270 degrees.
- **Bats are blind.**
 - o FALSE. All bats can see, even if they mainly use echolocation to find food.
- **If you touch a toad, you'll get warts.**
 - o FALSE. Toads are bumpy but they don't cause warts. Warts come from a virus.
- **Touching a baby bird will cause the mother to abandon it.**
 - o FALSE. Most birds have a poor sense of smell & aren't alarmed by human scent.
- **Snakes are slimy.**
 - o FALSE, unless they're in something slimy. As reptiles, snakes have dry, scaly skin.
- **Wood frogs can freeze for months without dying.**
 - o TRUE. Although frozen on the outside, glucose inside cells prevents damage.
- **Turtles can breathe through their butts.**
 - o TRUE, sort of... They can absorb oxygen from water through their cloaca.



Poster Contest Rules & Guidelines

Sponsorship and Judging



The 33rd annual **Give Wildlife a Chance Poster Contest** is sponsored by the [Georgia Department of Natural Resources \(DNR\)](#), [State Botanical Garden of Georgia](#) and [The Environmental Resources Network, Inc. \(TERN\)](#).

The theme changes yearly, but the contest is an ongoing educational effort to help children and teachers gain awareness and appreciation of Georgia's native animals and plants. The 2022-23 theme is **Wildlife Tales: True or False?** Artists as well as wildlife and plant professionals judge the contest entries based on artistic interpretation, originality, visual impact and contest theme.

Eligibility

The contest is open to Georgia students in kindergarten through fifth grades. Homeschool groups, public schools and private schools are encouraged to participate. Artwork must be produced by individual students; group drawings are not permitted. Schools/groups may enter one poster from any or all divisions:

- Division 1: Kindergarten
- Division 2: First and Second Grades
- Division 3: Third and Fourth Grades
- Division 4: Fifth Grade



Each school/group may enter **no more than a total of four posters** to the state-level contest (one entry per division). State-level entries are normally the artwork of the first-place school or homeschool group winners.

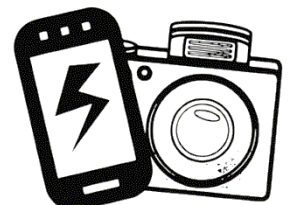
Entry and Format Requirements



All state-level artwork entries must be submitted electronically.

Any size flat artwork is fine as long as it can be photographed well (photos may be taken with a smart phone or digital camera). Collages and other three-dimensional artwork are not eligible.

For each state level entry, submit a full-frame photo of the artwork and a photo or PDF of the completed Entry Form (last page) via email to Audrey S. Mitchell at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia no later than **April 7, 2023**: astadler@uga.edu



Contest Awards

Certificates & Ribbons: Educators may request Give Wildlife a Chance certificates for all students who participate in their local school competition, as well as first-, second- and third-place ribbons to present to class, grade level or school group participants.



Email Audrey S. Mitchell (astadler@uqa.edu) with the following information:

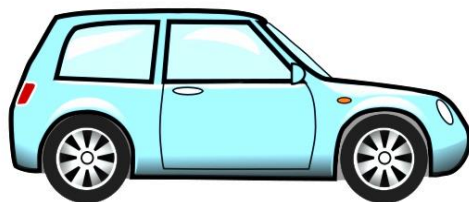
- School name
- Contest coordinator's contact information (email and street addresses, phone #)
- Total number of students participating in the contest by grade level
- Number of certificates, first place, second place and third place ribbons needed

State-Level Awards: The artwork of first-, second- and third-place winners in the state-level contest will be showcased on Georgia DNR Wildlife Resources Division and State Botanical Garden social media. Winners will also receive state-level award ribbons and may be recognized in other ways.



Special Perk for Teachers & Parents of State Winners!

The teacher and one parent of each state-level winner will receive a **free wildlife license plate**, thanks to TERN! Details will be emailed to the winning students' teachers and parents. To see wildlife tag options, visit gadnr.org/license-plates.



Thanks for participating!

**Thirty-third Annual
Give Wildlife a Chance Poster Contest
Entry Form**

Wildlife Tales: True or False?

Email Deadline: April 7, 2023



Student's Name: _____

Age: _____ Grade: _____ Division (circle one): 1 2 3 4

Poster Description: _____

Contest Coordinator: _____

School or Homeschool Group: _____

Street Address: _____

Coordinator's Email: _____

Coordinator's Phone #: _____

Parent's Email: _____

**For each state-level poster contest entry,
email a photo or PDF of this completed form
along with a photo of the artwork to:**

Audrey S. Mitchell at the State Botanical
Garden of Georgia - astadler@uga.edu

