



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
Museum Schools

School:	Normal Park Museum Magnet	Author(s):	Emily Pittman
Lesson Title:	Follow Me Through TN: River Habitat	Grade Level(s):	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Standard:	SPI 0307.5.1 Investigate an organism's characteristics and evaluate how these features enable it to survive in a particular environment SPI 0307.5.2 Investigate populations of different organisms and classify them as thriving, threatened, endangered, or extinct.	State:	Tennessee
Content Area:	Life Science	Time Duration:	45 minutes
Learning Target:	TSW identify and write about reasons lake sturgeon and brook trout became endangered in Tennessee. TSW compare and contrast the two fish in a writing assignment.	Materials:	Articles about Sturgeon and Brook Trout Interactive notebooks/clipboards Pencils
Key Vocabulary:	Positive impact Negative impact Endangered conservation	Technology Connection:	None

<p>Engage Now: <i>Opening</i></p>	<p>In class, we've started learning about a river ecosystem. What information can you tell me about rivers in Tennessee?</p>
<p>Teach Now: <i>Mini Lesson</i></p>	<p>TTW lead students through two rotations at the Tennessee Aquarium.</p> <p>Rotation 1: Lake Sturgeon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- TTW have students gather around the sturgeon touch tank and take a minute just to watch the fish. TSW be allowed to touch the water in the tank, but not the fish yet. They will have a chance to do so after the lesson. TTW ask students to describe their observations.</li> <li>- TTW hand out the article about lake sturgeon. It discusses what was happening in and around Chattanooga when the lake sturgeon's numbers began declining.</li> <li>- TTW read the article aloud while the students follow along, boxing in any key words/details that are important to understanding why lake sturgeon became endangered.</li> <li>- At the end, TTW ask students to share some of their key words.</li> <li>- TSW answer questions about the text asking them to state evidence from the text. While students are working to answer the questions, TTW have a few students at a time come to the tank to touch the sturgeon.</li> </ul> <p>Rotation 2: Brook Trout</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- TTW have students gather around the brook trout tank and take a minute just to watch the fish. TTW ask students to describe their observations. Are there any similarities they notice yet between the trout and sturgeon?</li> <li>- TTW hand out the article about brook trout. It discusses what environmental factors have caused the brook trout to go endangered.</li> <li>- TTW read the article aloud while students follow along, boxing in any key words/details that are important to understanding why brook trout became endangered.</li> <li>- At the end, TTW ask students to share some of their key words.</li> <li>- TSW answer questions about the text asking them to state evidence from the text. This activity also requires students to pull information from the other text about Lake Sturgeon.</li> </ul>
<p>Explore Now: <i>Independent Practice</i></p>	<p>TSW complete the reading/writing assignment as they go through the two rotations independently.</p>
<p>Closing:</p>	<p>TSW write two paragraphs. One paragraph will compare the two fish and a second will contrast the two fish. Students may use information from their observations as well as the information they gathered from reading the texts.</p>

<p>Show Me Now: <i>Assessment</i></p>	<p>TTW use the compare and contrast paragraph to assess student's understanding of the objectives of the lesson.</p>
<p>Differentiation Opportunities:</p>	<p>Instead of writing two separate paragraphs, students may just write one shorter paragraph about the endangered species in the Tennessee River that they learned about at the Aquarium.</p>
<p>Class/Home Extensions:</p>	
<p>Expedition Opportunities:</p>	<p>TN Aquarium</p>
<p>Project-Based Learning Opportunities:</p>	<p>TSW use their knowledge from this learning expedition to help write the information for their travel journal later on. TSW make layered paper fish for the river on exhibit (a few brook trout and 1 lake sturgeon).</p>