



## Love of local herpetology: amphibians and reptiles: art contest! Celebrating Sandy Creek Nature Center's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

2023 Sandy Creek Nature Center; Athens Clarke County Leisure Services

### **Purpose:**

Sandy Creek Nature Center is offering an art contest to encourage an awareness of local amphibians and reptiles in Clarke and surrounding counties. The contest will encourage students to research, observe and interact (within safe situations) with nature. Based off the scientific inquiry, students are encouraged to express their new knowledge through art.

### **Curriculum:**

Teachers will be provided with a brief education packet that includes information about permitted species for the contest; teachers are encouraged to let students express their new excitement for learning through art.

This packet also provides links to books and activities that teachers can use if needed. None of the activities or books listed in the packet are required. The subject matter of the artwork has to be one of the permitted species listed below.

Teachers are encouraged to use the local libraries and local bookstores for help in research.

### **Permitted Species:**

- Red Salamander *Pseudotriton ruber*
- Ground Skink *Scincella lateralis*
- Painted Turtle *Chrysemys picta*
- Ringneck Snake *Diadophis punctatus*
- Cope's Gray Treefrog *Hyla chrysoscelis*
- Alligator Snapping Turtle *Macrochelys temminckii*

### **Eligibility:**

Individual Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in public, private, and homeschools from the following counties:

Clarke

Jackson (limited schools that are within 40 miles one-way of Sandy Creek Nature Center)

Oconee

Madison

Oglethorpe



## **Size and Format:**

8 ½ X 11 or 9 X 12

- Pencils, colored pencils, pen and ink, or crayons
- White cardstock, drawing paper, copy/printer paper- all paper must be white paper
- No matting
- DO NOT FOLD, must submit in flat packages, if mailing artwork please use cardboard inside of the envelope so that image does not fold in post office
- Drawing contest only, no painting, photography, or Xerox copies
- Form: Artwork must be as scientifically accurate as possible- (If you draw a green anole judges need to know based on drawing that it is a green anole- no purple anoles.)
- Texture: is the texture visually appropriate to the species of amphibian or reptile chosen?
- Colors: are the colors appropriate to the selected species and surrounding habitat? (do not put a snake in the snow or draw a copperhead snake not native to the United States, we selected the copperhead and if you draw the snake we need the basic colors and patterns of the snake inside a realistic habitat.)
- Shape: drawings are allowed to be vertical or horizontal
- Drawing is on one side of the paper and needs to fill the page as much as possible. Please do not draw a small frog in the middle of the paper leaving lots of empty space. Try to use the entire sheet of paper for the drawing.
- On the back of the drawing, please print legibly the following information on the bottom right corner of the sheet of paper, making sure that the writing is in pencil so that the information does not obstruct the artwork on the front of the paper.
  - Name of child
  - Teacher's name- or parent name in case of homeschool groups
  - Name of school along with contact phone number of parent or school
  - Email address of parent or teacher

## **Contest Rules:**

1. Artwork cannot be a reproduction of another artist's visual images.
2. Artwork must be the contestant's original, hand-illustrated creation.
3. One drawing per student.



4. Do not copy or trace any part of someone else's photo or artwork-whether published or unpublished-onto the drawing. This is important for this contest; any copied, traced, or plagiarized drawings are subject to disqualification.
5. You may rely on others' images as guides when developing your work. This can be helpful especially if multiple references are used to develop a more complete understanding of the species represented in your entry. However, others' images may be used for reference only.
6. Change at least 5 (five) of the elements so that you cannot easily identify which images you used as references when you look at your creation.
7. The permitted species list is the list to pick the amphibian or reptile from; species not on the list are disqualified.
8. There should be no border around the image.
9. No lettering, words, signatures, or initials may appear on the front of the artwork.

### **Entry Form:**

- Include entry form with drawing by using a paperclip to attach the form to the drawing, Please put a scrap piece of paper underneath the paperclip so that the drawing is not damaged with the paperclip.
- Please do not use glue or staples
- Send drawings to the following address
  - Attention- Michelle Cash: Sandy Creek Nature Center 205 Old Commerce Road  
Athens, GA 30607
- Drawings may be mailed to the nature center or dropped off at the front desk of the nature center. Please ask to speak with Michelle Cash or drop off to Michelle Cash.
- For Clarke County Schools- entries may be sent through interoffice school mail to Sandy Creek Nature Center- attention Michelle Cash

### **Contest Deadlines:**

The contest runs January 2023 and runs until May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Artwork must be postmarked by May 1st, 2023.

Winners are notified by email via contact information provided on entry form.



## **Judging/Awards:**

Sandy Creek Nature Center has selected three judges. One local artist and one Department of Natural Resources (DNR) scientist, one local scientist that works for Athens Clarke County. The three judges will select an overall winner and one winner from each category. We will have four separate winners. The overall winner cannot win in the categories A-C.

### **Categories:**

*Overall Winner*

*Category A winner*

*Category B winner*

*Category C winner*

*Category A: Kindergarten through 1<sup>st</sup> grade students*

*Category B: 2<sup>nd</sup> grade through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students*

*Category C: 4<sup>th</sup> grade through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students*

Sandy Creek Nature Center employees are not judging the artwork.

Four total winners overall. The winners will receive the following as a prize.

The overall winner will receive 1 family membership to Sandy Creek Nature Center, a goody basket and a special presentation presented by a local amphibian/reptile expert.

Each of the winners from Category A-C will receive a goody basket and a special presentation by a local amphibian/reptile expert.

(homeschool winners will need to coordinate with Michelle Cash about the presentation)



**Display of Winning Artwork:**

Sandy Creek Nature Center will feature the overall winner's artwork in our summer or fall hyla and select artwork will be on display for our annual Snake Day 2023.

Artwork will not be returned and will become property of Sandy Creek Nature Center Athens Clarke County Leisure Services.



# 2023 Entry Form

**Love of local herpetology: amphibians and reptiles: art contest!**

**2023 Sandy Creek Nature Center; Athens Clarke County Leisure Services**

**Students Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher's Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name : \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School's Physical Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School's Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contestant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for my artwork to become the property of the Sandy Creek Nature Center and understand that it will not be returned. Selected artwork may be on public display.

**Parent or Guardian Permission:**

I give permission for my child to participate in this contest.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_