

FOR RELEASE
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Yukon students visit with animals to learn about conservation

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon and the Yukon Wildlife Preserve are partnering to educate Yukon students about protecting and conserving our natural world.

This program will bring global species such as pythons, tortoises, tarantulas, scorpions, barn owls, parrots, lemurs and more to Whitehorse elementary schools on September 22 and 23.

"We are proud to partner with the Yukon Wildlife Preserve to offer this great opportunity for Yukon students to learn about and experience the remarkable biodiversity found on our planet," Minister of Education Doug Graham said. "By viewing and interacting with new and unusual species, students gain a better understanding of the natural world and the importance of habitats and the environment."

This one-hour program is open to elementary students and will explore human relationships with animals and the actions individuals can take to protect and conserve the ecosystems they live in.

"We're really proud to be able to bring Canada's Accredited Zoos and Aquariums to students in our community in a really meaningful and engaging way. Little Ray's Reptile Zoo and Hands-on Exotics are some of Canada's top zoological outreach organizations," Yukon Wildlife Preserve Programming and Education director Jake Paleczny said. "Of course, we're all about Yukon wildlife at the preserve, but there's a whole wild world outside of Yukon. These presentations give students the opportunity to get personal with wildlife and conservation issues that would otherwise be worlds away."

The program has come to Whitehorse as part of the 40th annual Canada's Accredited Zoos and Aquariums conference from September 21-24, hosted by the Yukon Wildlife Preserve Operating Society. The school programming is one way in which the conference benefits the local community.

The school programming will be led by Little Ray's Reptile Zoo and Hands-on Exotics, both of which are Canada's Accredited Zoos and Aquariums accredited businesses.

Learn more:
Yukon Wildlife Preserve
CAZA
Little Ray's Reptile Zoo
Hands-on Exotics

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