



## Coastal Bend Wildlife Photo Contest

711 N. Carancahua, Ste 120  
Corpus Christi, TX 78475  
(361) 881-9316

[wildlifephoto@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wildlifephoto@sbcglobal.net)

**Photo Opportunity: Thursday, October 19th**

**1:00 PM**

**Mircovich Elementary School**

**2720 Big Oak Ln**

**Ingleside, TX 78362-6341**

**School Contact: Tammy Greene**

**361-776-1683 x 2304**

### **Students at Mircovich Elementary School in Ingleside go WILD with a grant from the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuary Program**

Mircovich Elementary School students will receive the *Kritters 4 Kids* Science Curriculum Resource Guide thanks to the generous support of the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuary Program. Join us Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM at Mircovich Elementary School as representatives from the Coastal Bend Wildlife Photo Contest present a classroom set of 25 books to students. The new curriculum, funded by the Harvey Weil Sportsman Conservation Fund, helps teachers prepare the students for the TAKs test by using local interactive activities with *Wildlife in Focus II* Photography Books. The lessons challenge the students in physical and environmental sciences by building food chains, living terrariums, and school yard conservation projects.

**“Ours is a visual culture- we need to see it to believe it. Creating compelling images of both Texas Wildlife and the critical habitat on which it depends is a powerful way to let all Texans know what we have and of the desperate need to preserve it.”**

**–Sean Fitzgerald, Professional Photographer**

*Kritters 4 Kids* teaches students about the vastness and variety of habitat being threatened by urbanization. Our *Wildlife in Focus II* Photo book is accompanied by a fun yet educational activity guide, and leads the student thru the varied species of plants and animals native to the Coastal Bend of Texas. The *Kritters 4 Kids* curriculum targets the elementary and middle school Texas Essential Knowledge & Skills (TEKS) guidelines which specifically require students to study the relationships of organisms to the environment. *Kritters 4 Kids* teaches students about our local ecological regions, native plants, and ecosystems and the importance of stewardship and conservation.

A local Science teacher using the resource guide says, “The beautiful photos and the activities which are targeted specifically for this age group will be invaluable in piquing their interest and starting them on their way to awareness of how valuable and fragile this beautiful land we coexist on is.”

Additional schools can be added to our waiting list by filling out a short grant application available online at [www.wildlifephotcontest.com](http://www.wildlifephotcontest.com) or by calling our office at 361-881-9316.

**About us:**

The **Coastal Bend Wildlife Photo Contest** was created in 2000 to expand awareness of the various and important eco-systems in the Coastal Bend region of Texas. The 501(c)(3) organization supports 4 Programs:

**Wildlife Photo Contest-** The 2nd Richest wildlife photography contest in the world in which private landowner's team up with photographers to capture winning images. In 2005, \$75,000 in prize money was awarded.

**Wildlife In Focus I, II & III Photography books-** These books showcase over 150 winning images from the previous photo contests in 2001, 2003 and 2005. The books capture an intimate and artistic view of Coastal Bend Wildlife as seen thru the eyes of the landowner and photographer.

**Kritters 4 Kids-** This program brings awareness to youth about the vastness and variety of habitat in the Coastal Bend that are being threatened by urbanization. Wildlife in Focus is supplemented by a fun and educational activity guide and leads the student thru the varied species of plants and animals native to the Coastal Bend. The goal of Kritters 4 Kids is to plant seeds of passion for a new generation of naturalists, biologists, and nature lovers to protect and preserve our local ecosystems.

**Traveling Benefactors Photo Exhibit-** The sponsor funded traveling exhibit showcases the winning images and our proud sponsors. The exhibit travels throughout 14 counties of the Coastal Bend. To date, our exhibit has visited more than 90 venues including libraries, museums, banks, schools, and art centers.

**Contact:**      **Michelle Horine**  
**Executive Director**  
**Coastal Bend Wildlife Photo Contest**  
**361-881-9316 office**  
**361-533-0768 cell**

**Jennifer McClaren**  
**Education Coordinator**  
**Coastal Bend Wildlife Photo Contest**  
**361-881-9316 office**  
**361-549-5676**