



Transcript for *Marjory Saves the Everglades: The Story of Marjory Stoneman Douglas* (Paula Wiseman Books, an Imprint of Simon & Schuster) Preview Video

Preview (0:00 – 7:21)

Hi everyone! It's Colleen from the KU Natural History Museum, and I'm so excited to remind you about tomorrow's Story Book Science, here on Facebook Live. I will be reading the book, *Marjory Saves the Everglades: The Story of Marjory Stoneman Douglas*. This book is written by Sandra Neil Wallace, and it's illustrated by Rebecca Gibbon. And it's being read with permission from Simon and Schuster. So, thank you to them for the permission to read this book!

Now, when we read this book tomorrow, we are starting off our month of Story Book Science, celebrating national parks! And we're going to start with a national park in the United States, specifically in the state of Florida. So, we'll be talking about Everglades National Park.

Now, Everglades National Park, it was established as a national park in 1947. And there were some people that didn't think it should be a national park. They just thought it was a swamp. They thought it was full of mosquitoes. And they didn't really think it was anything special, or even pretty to look at.

But there were people, thankfully, that disagreed with those people. They knew the Everglades was special. They knew it was worth protecting! And even though it didn't look like the Grand Canyon or Yosemite National Parks, they knew it had value. It was worth conserving.

So, when we talk about those people, we talk about conservationists. So, they worked to conserve, or protect, a natural area. And that's a very important word. So, we're going to put it on the wall. Conservation.

So, when we talk about conservation, when we talk about conservationists, we're talking about people who conserve and protect natural areas. And tomorrow, we'll read about Marjory Stoneman Douglas, who was a conservationist and one of many champions for the Everglades.

Now, the Everglades, it's a very special place for lots of reasons. One reason is because of the biodiversity in the area. What do you think I mean when I say biodiversity? What does biodiversity mean?

Biodiversity is the amount of the living things in an area, specifically the different living things in the area. So, all the plants, the fungi, the animals, including humans. All of those living things and how they interact with one another.

Now, biodiversity, it's another very important word. So, we are going to put it on the wall as a vocabulary word.

So, our vocabulary words are conservation and biodiversity.

Now, when we talk about the Everglades, and we talk about its biodiversity, we want to talk about the living things that can be found in the Everglades. So, what are some living things that you think of when you think of the Everglades? What living things do you think live in the Everglades?

Well, we know that plants are included when we talk about biodiversity. So, maybe you thought of orchids. This is an illustration of an orchid found in the Everglades called the cowhorn orchid. Maybe you thought of grasses! And this is an illustration of one of many grasses found in the Everglades. This is the endangered Everglades crabgrass. Alright?

Maybe you thought of insects. So, this is an example of an insect that you can find in the Everglades, that lives there. This is an eyed click beetle, just one of many insects.

Maybe you thought of animals like mammals. Alright? So, when I think of mammals in the Everglades, I think of the Florida Panther. Alright? So, the Florida panther is an example of a living thing in the Everglades. Also, manatees! This is the West Indian manatee, which lives in the Everglades.

Now, there are other animals that live in the Everglades, as well. And some animals that live in the Everglades are reptiles. Now, I don't have any pictures of those reptiles, but I do have museum specimens that represent those reptiles. And I'm going to show them to you! And I want you to make some observations: what you notice about those museum specimens. And I want you to think and make a guess of what animal is represented by the museum specimens. And remember, it's going to be a reptile. Okay? Alright!

So, I'm going to grab the first museum specimen. Alright!

So, this is our first museum specimen. What do you notice about this museum specimen? Maybe you notice it's a skull. So, it's got a lower jaw, and then an upper jaw. Maybe you notice its teeth. I'll turn it around. What do you notice? And, more importantly, what animal do you think is represented by this museum specimen? Now, remember, this is an animal that lives in the Everglades. Alright? So, that is the first museum specimen.

And I'm going to put this down, and then I'm going to grab the second museum specimen. Okay? Alright.

This is the second museum specimen. Now, it's a little smaller. So, I can put it closer to the camera. And it represents a reptile that can be found in the Everglades. What do you think this museum specimen represents? So, take a moment longer to look at it. And I'll turn it to the other side so you can see. Alright.

So, I'm going to put this down now.

So, what I'd like you to do is I want you to think about those museum specimens you just saw, and I want you to think about what animals they might represent that live in the Everglades. And then I want you to join me tomorrow. We'll talk more about those museum specimens, and we'll read the book *Marjory Saves the Everglades*. So, I hope to see you then! Bye!