

SCALY ADVENTURES® SPED INCLUSIVE PROGRAMS

ACCOMODATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Scaly Adventures® offers in-school educational programs to students of all ages and abilities. Their programs are designed by a KSU Bagwell College of Education Hall of Fame Educator and the executive producer/creator of the award-winning Scaly Adventures® television series. The programs are designed to be participative while presenting key science concepts, social-emotional development, anti-bullying, and positive self esteem in a way that engages students and leads a path for discussion in the classroom long after the program is over. They help students to define their purpose while emboldening them to courageously pursue their passions.

Having a deep belief that all children should be afforded the opportunity to interact with their amazing animals and experience the excitement and joy of overcoming natural fears, Scaly Adventures® has designed their programs to engage SPED students of all abilities while offering specific accommodations and modifications for this student group. Offering both a “mainstream” program that guarantees the participation of SPED students in regular programs and a special “Scaly Unplugged” program that removes the large crowd, audio and video components, and sensory stimulating elements is their way of ensuring all students feel welcome, safe, comfortable, and included. The Unplugged program is a shorter, more intimate program that allows students to sit with their teachers and chaperones and experience the animals in a way that is customized to their comfort and ability. Their animals are all Autistic-friendly, and they have two large pythons that are specifically trained to work with autism, Down’s, PTSD, disabled, and non-verbal/responsive children. These animals do not react to abrupt movement, light squeezes, light impact or hugs and kisses from children. Beyond that, Scaly Adventures also brings several plush animals that resemble the real animals that students may hold and play with if they are unable to touch a living animal. Finally, those pythons that are trained to work specifically with SPED students wear colorful scrunchies on their heads with cute ears, like a mouse or cat, as a way to reduce the fear often felt when encountering a large python for the first time.

Scaly Adventures® is passionate about ensuring that children of all ages and abilities can share the same experience, and therefore they work with educators and experts to ensure that each student is included, inspired, empowered, educated, and most of all has fun.

For more information please contact Tanya Curren, Scaly Adventures® Director of Education and co-creator, at Tanya@ScalyAdventures.com or by calling (864) 558-1502.