



From exotic wildlife animals to Nebraska native amphibians and reptiles, S.C.O.R.E. 2009 will be the site of many animal visitors this summer.

Dr. Dennis Ferraro, a herpetologist from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, will return to S.C.O.R.E. with many of his amphibian and reptile friends. Dr. Ferraro has a specimen collection of every Nebraska known species of amphibians and reptiles, though he will not be bringing all of them to camp.

Dr. Ferraro was a guest scientist at last summer's S.C.O.R.E. T.A.C. (Team Adventure Camp) at Swinging Bridge Ranch. There he introduced participants to the different amphibians and reptiles found in Nebraska. He also taught them how to look and catch snakes, lizards, turtles and frogs safely.

With the specimens they caught, students identified the animal and collected data for Dr. Ferraro's research. They measured, weighed, sexed, tagged, and also took blood for DNA analysis.

Dr. Ferraro spends much of his summer doing research across the state. Students engaged in the process of data collection and then released the animal. It will be exciting if students can recapture one of the snakes, frogs, turtles or lizards and compare data this summer at S.C.O.R.E.

Dr. Ferraro will present an Outreach Program on Monday, June 15, at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at the Chase County Schools. He will also bring some of his "friends" to the S.C.O.R.E. Science Show Wednesday, June 17, at 6:30 p.m. The Science Show will be located at the Chase County Fairgrounds.

There is no charge for the Outreach Programs and the public is welcome to attend. Dr. Ferraro will teach individual sessions with 3-4 graders on June 15, 5-6 graders on June 16 and 1-2 grades June 17.

Dr. Ferraro is not only an expert on amphibians and reptiles, he is a great teacher and enjoys working with younger youth as well as his college students. He has a way of helping students become comfortable around animals some would just as soon see from a distance.

2009 S.C.O.R.E. camp  
(Science Camps Offer  
Rewarding Experiences)  
June 15-19  
In and around Imperial, Neb.

Register online:

[www.ccschools.cc/schools](http://www.ccschools.cc/schools)

Click on S.C.O.R.E. link