



Crowd enjoys wildlife touring show with exotic birds, snakes and more

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For some children, holding a 50-foot-long python can be terrifying.

For Kayla Redmond, it was anything but.

"The snake was really heavy and kind of squishy," said 9-year-old Kayla of Jackson, who held a 100-pound snake with six other children. "It was kind of cool, because I've never held a snake before."

Kayla was among a crowd of more than 200 who screamed with excitement while seeing a wildlife touring show called "Live on Stage, The Rainforest" on Friday at Paragon Charter Academy.

Learn more

For more about "Live on Stage, The Rainforest" go to www.understandingwildlife.org.

Students and their families watched a live animal show that featured exotic birds, alligators, jungle cats and snakes.

Admission was \$5 per person and free for children younger than 3.

This was the second time the touring show from Wapakoneta, Ohio, had made a visit to the school. The show visited Paragon and two other area schools in 2007.

"The people really enjoyed it when they (the touring show) were here last time," said Sally Clark, Paragon administrative dean.

Paragon recently became an official Michigan green school as a result of the school's strong recycling efforts. Clark said Friday's event helped reinforce to students the importance of saving the environment. "This (event) just helped bring things to life for the kids," Clark said.

Seven-year-old girls Abbey Frew and Ciara Hughes also had a chance to hold the massive python. "(The snake) was just heavy," Abbey said. "It felt pretty smooth, too."

For Ciara, seeing the snake was her favorite part of the night. "The snake was kind of shiny but really heavy."

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