



### **Learning Objective:**

Students will view and learn about Clyde Butcher's photography and the positive impact his work has had on Florida and the Everglades.

### **Biography:**

Clyde Butcher (born 1942) is an American large-format camera photographer known for wilderness photography of the Florida landscape. He began his career doing color photography before switching to large-scale black-and-white landscape photography after the death of his son. Butcher is a strong advocate of conservation efforts and uses his work to promote awareness of the beauty of natural places.

Butcher's deep appreciation for the Everglades inspired him to work for the restoration and preservation of the environment. He has received recognition for his community service as well as his photography. In 1992, PBS aired a documentary about him, *Visions of Florida*, which won a Wolfson Award.

Butcher and his work have also inspired other artist-conservationists, such as film producer Elam Stoltzfus, who was struck by Clyde's art. The pair have formed a friendship over the years and have collaborated on several multimedia projects together as a result. Butcher hosted the documentaries "Big Cypress Swamp: The Western Everglades" and

"Kissimmee Basin: The Northern Everglades," sister films that highlighted the importance of conservation and art in the State of Florida.

**Resources:**

Visit the Clyde Butcher Website at [www.ClydeButcherTravelingExhibitions.com](http://www.ClydeButcherTravelingExhibitions.com)

Discussions Questions: After visiting the website, students will be able to see the photographs that will be in the exhibition.

Group Discussion questions:

What is your favorite photo and why?

What do you think is the center of interest?

How does the photographer use black and white to highlight his photograph?

Clyde Butcher’s photographs highlight the beauty of the Everglades. Do you think his photographs have changed public perception and encouraged people to value the Everglades?

How do you think artists raise awareness about our natural environment and the need to protect and preserve it?

**AMERICA’S EVERGLADES: Through the Lens of Clyde Butcher**

October 2, 2023 to January 2, 2024

Opening Reception: Friday, October 6, 6-8pm

**Location:**

Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs (239) 495-8989 [www.artcenterbonita.org](http://www.artcenterbonita.org)

The exhibition will be divided and displayed at both Centers (two locations)

Center for Visual Arts

26100 Old 41 Road, Bonita Springs

Gallery Hours:

Monday-Saturday, 9am-5pm

Saturday, 9am-2pm

Galleries are closed on Sundays and major holidays

Center for Performing Arts

10150 Bonita Beach Road, Bonita Springs

Gallery Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm

This Lesson Plan created by Gloria Topczynski, May 2023