

DES

## MRS. WRASE'S WILD SURPRISE



Fourth grade teacher Elizabeth Wrase and her students at Tom Daniels Elementary School received a wonderfully wild surprise on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Wrase's husband, Micah, arranged for the interactive, educational animal outfit, Happy Tails Entertainment, to visit her classroom on her birthday. Traveling from Pipe Creek, Texas, with Anita, a former Sea World animal, "Taz" the Tazmanina wallaby, "Herbie" the Hog Island Boar, and "Hasani" the African porcupine delighted both Wrase and her students.

Said Wrase, "It was an unexpected surprise for all of us! Having just completed a life science unit that included topics such as basic needs of animals, animal adaptations, predator/prey relationships, habitat studies, food chain and food web interactions, and life cycles, Anita did a great job connecting all topics studied to an amazing experience that brought science to life in an exciting way!"

Students were thrilled by the unexpected visitors. Getting to pet the 40 pound prickly porcupine that walked among them on a leash seemed the highlight and all of Mrs. Wrase's students bravely touched the boa and enjoyed watching it wrap itself around the trainer's arm and leg. While Taz the wallaby seemed a bit jumpy from all the attention, once in his trainers pouch, the students were able to step outside and visit him in his cage from the vehicle he traveled to school in.

Said Principal Amy Billeiter, "We loved assisting Elizabeth's husband, Micah, in this birthday surprise. As an enthusiastic science teacher, her husband knew that bringing these animals into the classroom fit her personality better than flowers or a cake. It was the perfect gift for her and the classroom as well."

Wrase says that she plans to bring Happy Tails Entertainment back to introduce the lemur to her students before the year is done. For information on this educational animal outfit, visit their website at [www.happytailsent.com](http://www.happytailsent.com). For more on Wrase's birthday surprise, contact the teacher at Tom Daniels Elementary School, (830)257-2208 or email [elizabeth.wrase@kerrvilleisd.net](mailto:elizabeth.wrase@kerrvilleisd.net).

