

## Earth Day 2006 at McAlester Army Ammunition Plant

In celebration of Earth Day 2006, Stuart elementary school visits McAlester Army Ammunition Plant (MCAAP). Students participated in a quarter-mile nature walk where they were educated on Wild turkeys, wetlands, prescribed burning, and how to identify snakes, trees and plants. Dale Starry, an environmental scientist at MCAAP helped lead the tour. Protecting the environment was a major theme throughout Starry's tour. Starry capped off the tour by taking the students to the plant's landfill and explained that the plant recycles cans, paper, steel, lumber, and cardboard cans and paper, thus saving landfill space. The plant's landfill was scheduled to be full within 10 years but because of the plant's conscientious effort to recycle, the landfill will last an additional 10 years, he said.



Celebrating Earth Day--McAlester Army Ammunition Plant land manager Bill Starry (in hat) handles a black snake while students from Stuart Elementary School join in. Twenty-seven students from the school toured the ammunition plant yesterday learning about wildlife, wetlands and recycling as part of the U.S. Army's Earth Day celebration held April 17-21. (U.S. Army photo by Mark Hughes)