

Animal Habitats

Make observations about life in different habitats.



Learning Objectives:

Students will be able to discuss the diversity of life found in different habitats.

Standards:

Next Generation Science Standard

LS4-1. Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.

Materials:

- Animal and Habitat cards (print/cut out a set for each group)

Lesson:

Introduction and Teacher Modeling

- Gather the students together. Explain to the students that today they will be thinking about where animals live. Where an animal lives is called its habitat. In our habitat, we need things to survive.
- Ask the students to think of what humans need to survive.
- Make a list on the whiteboard called "Human Needs." *Write things such as clothing, water, food, shelter, love, etc.*
- Ask students to raise their hands if they have a pet.
- Ask the students to think of what their pets need to survive.
- Make a second list on the whiteboard called "Pet Needs." Student ideas for *pet needs may include water, food, shelter, love, etc.*

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Lesson:

Introduction and Teacher Modeling cont'd

- Point out the needs humans and pets have in common.
- Ask the students to think about animals that live outside.
- Explain to students that like humans and pets, wild animals have basic needs that must be met in order for them to survive.
- Explain to the students that the three basic needs are food, water and shelter.

Guided Practice/Working Time

- Place the students in groups.
- Each group should be given pictures of habitats and pictures of animals.
- Have students consider which habitat would NOT be good for each animal.

For example, an elephant would not live in the tundra because they don't have hair and would get too cold.

- Explain to the students that a good habitat for the animal will help the animal to find all of its basic needs.
- Model placing a few animals on the correct habitat, explaining why.
- Invite students to try to place animals in the correct habitat.

Review and Closing

- As a class, discuss which animals should be in each habitat.
- Ask the students to think about the habitats that exist in their community. Call on a few students to share.