

Teacher Work Sample



Learning Goals

- **Subject Areas: Science and Language Arts**
- **Topic and Standards: Homes for Living Things, Animal Environments & Habitats**

5.5.B1 / Characteristics of Life
5.10.A1 / Environmental Studies
3.1.G1 / Reading
3.4.B1 / Listening

- **Concept: Adaptation and Survival**
- **Essential Question: How does an animal's habitat help it to survive?**



Lower Order Objectives

- **Students will be able to define key terms including the words environment, habitat, survival, and ecosystem.**
- **Students will be able to describe how an animal is able to adapt to its environment in order to survive.**
- **Students will be able to describe how living things survive in different places.**

Higher Order Objective

- **Students will be able to compare various habitats including: an ocean, desert, rain forest, and grassland.**
- **Students will be able to create a group project about their habitat.**



Websites



<http://www.mbgnet.net/>

This is a website that provides information about different habitats around the world. If you would like to find out information about what it is like where other people live, this is an excellent source. It has each of the biomes of the world (habitats), freshwater systems, and marine ecosystems. Each type is broken into its own section. For example: if you click on rainforest, it gives an overview of what a rainforest is, pictures, where they are located, what kind of plants live there, and what kind of animals live there.

<http://www.activescience-gsk.com/module2/home.html>

This is an excellent website for children to practice learning about habitats. Different animals live in different habitats because of the different features they have. This website has questions about each habitat and choices for answers. Children can interactively play on this website to learn about animals habitats.

<http://www.amnh.org/ology/>

This is a great website for teachers and students. The website is from the American Museum of Natural History and it offers information on various topics. Whether you are studying anthropology, archaeology, astronomy, biodiversity, climate change, earth, genetics, water, paleontology, or zoology, this is the place to go!



Books

- **Dell’Oro, Suzanne (2000), *Tunneling Earthworms*, Lerner Publishing Group**
- **Hewitt, Sally (1999), *All Kinds of Habitats*, Danbury, Connecticut: Children’s Press**
- **Higginson, Mel (2007), *Migration, Nature’s Cycles*, Vero Beach, FL: Rourke Pub**
- **Higginson, Mel (2007), *Hibernation, Nature’s Cycles*, Vero Beach, FL: Rourke Pub**
- **Rustad Whitehouse, Patricia (2007), *Living in an Ocean*, Vero Beach, FL: Rourke Pub**
- **Whitehouse, Patricia (2007), *Living in a Rainforest*, Vero Beach, FL: Rourke Pub**
- **Whitehouse, Patricia (2007), *Living in a Grassland*, Vero Beach, FL: Rourke Pub**
- **Whitehouse, Patricia (2007), *Living in a Desert*, Vero Beach, FL: Rourke Pub**

Day One

Motivate: I introduced this photograph of the habitat in which the children live to create a discussion.



Next, I introduced an earthworm habitat to the children. We observed it for a few days.





As the children observed the worms, they answered questions and recorded what they were seeing.

“How long does an earthworm live?”



“How many worms are in here?”

Teach: I used visuals of animals to introduce new words to the children. Several children were called on to come up and chose a word from a pile. We discussed the words.

Some of the words added to our word wall include:

Environment

Habitat

Adapt

Animals

Survival

People

Plants

Migrate

Hibernate

Desert

Rainforest

Ocean

Grassland



Day Two

The children watched a short YouTube clip about habitats and environments, introducing that habitats provide shelter, food, and water.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ql24o2rVvU>



I read the book, *All Kinds of Habitats* by Sally Hewitt.

Questions that we discussed include:

What is a habitat?

What is an environment made up of?

What do plants and animals need in a habitat?

How do animals adapt to their environment in order to survive?

What can happen when people change environments?

How have animals adapted to living in their habitat?

What are some characteristics of a each habitat?

Predict what you think happens to animals if their habitats disappear or change?

Judge what you think it would be like to live in a different environment.



Next, we played the game, "Web of Life."





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This game reinforced the concept of biodiversity and that all living things need each other to survive.

“An earthworm needs soil in order to live because it lives in it and eats it”

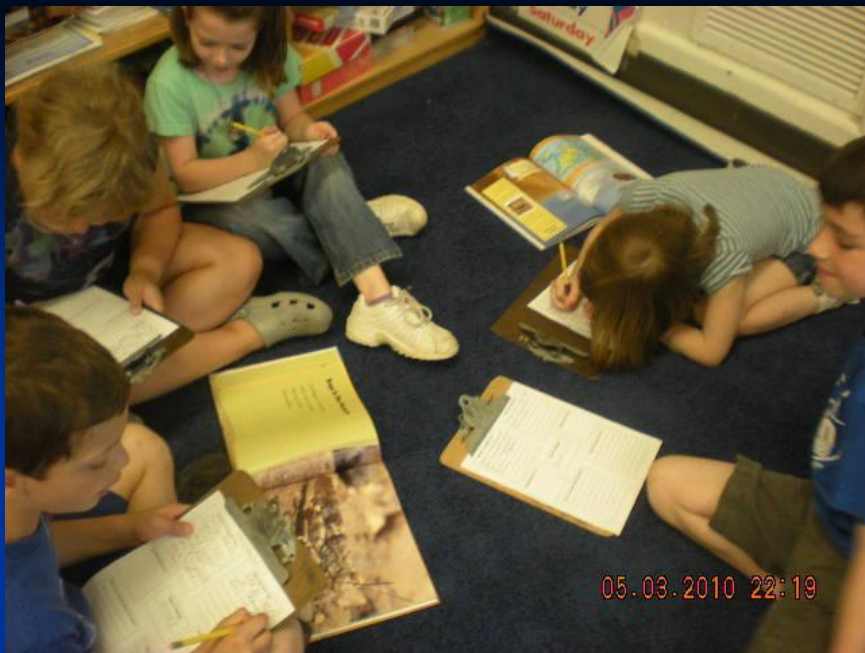


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“A deer can drink water out of the river”

Next, the children were split into groups of five. Each group was a different habitat: ocean, grassland, rainforest, or desert. They researched using the book and the computer to fill out their graphic organizers together.





“Guys lets look for animals first”

“WOW! Look at this picture!”



Day Three

As the children finished their graphic organizers, they started on their posters. They were instructed to make a poster all about their habitat.



“First we have to write our facts.”



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“The animal adapts because it has fins and a tail.”

“Look at this!!”

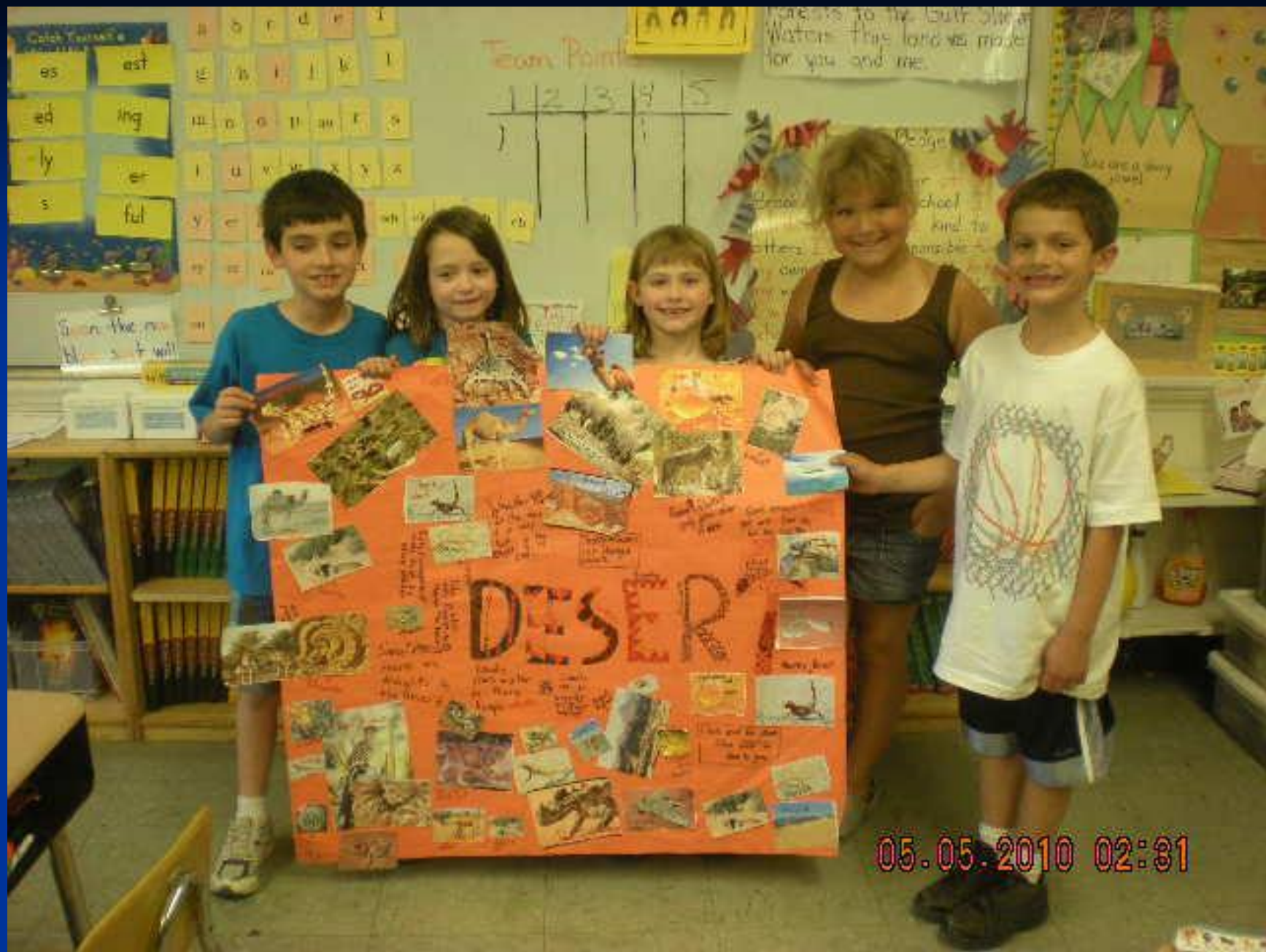


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Day Four

Each group got to be the “teachers” and teach the rest of the class about their habitat. The children LOVED this!





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brown cow



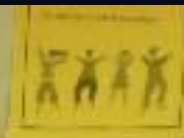
Catch Yourself

es	est
ed	ing
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Team Points

1	2	3	4	5

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz



...to the New York
Islands from the Redwood
Forests to the Gulf Stream
Waters. This land is made
for you and me.

The Z-S Pledge

Second grader
Brookdale Avenue School

I will be kind to
others. I will be responsible
for my own behavior. I won't let
my words or actions hurt other
people. I will bring peace
to my school each day.



Children's Dictionary

05.06.2010 01:42



Goats
 Goats are ruminants. They have four stomachs. They like to eat grass and leaves. They are used for milk and meat.

Horses
 Horses are used for riding and pulling. They are very fast and strong. They like to eat hay and grain.

Pigs
 Pigs are used for meat. They are very smart and curious. They like to eat a variety of foods.

Chickens
 Chickens are used for eggs and meat. They are very common on farms. They like to eat insects and grains.

Sheep
 Sheep are used for wool and meat. They are very fluffy and like to graze on grass.

Cows
 Cows are used for milk and meat. They are very large and like to eat grass.

Buffaloes
 Buffaloes are used for meat and hides. They are very hardy and like to live in wet areas.

Guinea Pigs
 Guinea pigs are used for research. They are very small and like to eat vegetables.

Deer
 Deer are used for meat and antlers. They are very graceful and like to live in forests.

Goats
 Goats are used for milk and meat. They are very hardy and like to live in mountainous areas.

Chickens
 Chickens are used for eggs and meat. They are very common on farms. They like to eat insects and grains.

Sheep
 Sheep are used for wool and meat. They are very fluffy and like to graze on grass.

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05.05.2010 22:48



Team Points

1	2	3	4	5
1				

PLEASE TAKE HANDS MAKE FOR YOU AND ME.

The Z-S Pledge
Brookdale School
Kind to
Others
Own
Words
Hurt others

05.05.2010 02:38

Assessment



Learning Goals #1 and #2 were each aligned with an objective. For both pre and post-assessment, the children took a quiz. A checklist was used for formative observation.

#1- What is a habitat and how does an animals habitat help it to survive?

#2- What is the difference between a desert habitat and the habitat you live in?

THE END!

