

GROW YOUR PALS PROGRAM GUIDE



THE NATIONAL FFA MENTORING PROGRAM

Sponsored by



LESSON 38

Categorizing Flora and Fauna

Unit:
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

PRECEPTS

- H. Social growth
 - H1. Acknowledge that differences exist among people



Lesson Type:
One-on-One

NATIONAL STANDARDS

NS.K-4.1 Science as Inquiry

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this lesson, the student will ...

1. Categorize flora and fauna by type of habitat.
2. Summarize habitat characteristics.





TIME

Instruction time for this lesson: **45 minutes.**



RESOURCES

None



TOOLS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

- ✓ 15 (or more) 3- by 5-inch index cards
- ✓ nature photographs from magazines and catalogs that show plants and animals found in different habitats
- ✓ pencil, pen and/or crayons
- ✓ scissors
- ✓ paste
- ✓ white paper

KEY TERMS



The following term is presented in this lesson and appears in ***bold italics***:
habitat

INTEREST APPROACH



On a piece of paper, list the things in your bedroom. Include colors, shapes and items that make your room special.

Discuss with your mentee what makes his or her room special. Help your mentee compare his or her room to a friend's room. Encourage him or her to figure out why there are differences.



What does your room look like?
What things in your room describe you?
Think about your friend's room. How is that room different than yours?

SUMMARY OF CONTENT AND TEACHING STRATEGIES

OBJECTIVE 1. | Categorize flora and fauna by type of *habitat*.



*Using the list your mentee created, have him or her describe how said bedroom is his or her personal **habitat**.*

*Then share the following official definition of **habitat** with your mentee.*

I. **Habitat**

A. **Habitat** is a place that is natural for the life and growth of a living organism.



We are going to use the magazines and catalogs to cut and paste pictures to make three different **habitats**.

*Choose three habitats to have your little PALS investigate. At least one of the habitats should be one that occurs in your state. For example, a rain forest, desert, prairie, river, hardwood forest, etc. Help your PALS label index cards with the habitat names. Label five cards with each name. While your mentee is cutting out pictures, encourage him or her to think about all the differences between the **habitats**. If we think about the people we see every day, what kind of differences might we see in them? Have your PALS consider the differences he or she notices in the people around every day, such as their forms of dress, likes, dislikes, hobbies, etc. Place the cut out pictures onto an index card from the habitat and label what the picture is or represents.*



OBJECTIVE 2. | Summarize habitat characteristics.



Help your mentee get the materials and begin mixing paint colors for his or her drawing.

*Begin a discussion to compare the similarities and differences between **habitats** and the people we see every day.*



Now that we have our **habitats**, let's look at what makes them different and the similarities they show.

How do the differences in nature compare to the differences in people we see every day?

What makes us different?

What similarities do we see?



What makes us similar?



As you can see, there is a lot of variety in nature. Animals and plants enjoy having their own special environments that make it easier to survive. When considering the differences among people around us, we find we're not all that different from one another. We simply enjoy different things.



REVIEW / SUMMARY / EVALUATION

Use the *Michelangelo Moment* to take the mentees' list of bedroom items to draw out their own perfect **habitat** and then draw another room in the house (perhaps that of a brother or sister etc.)



We just talked about animals' **habitats** and our own **habitats**. When you first think of an animal, it might be difficult to think of the ways we might be similar to them. After all, who wants to think of oneself as being similar to a mouse (or any animal)? Once we really compare needs and the characteristics that make each animal and every single one of us individuals, it is a lot easier to find common ground. We both like having our own space and we have basic needs such as food and water. It is important to recognize the different types of **habitats** in an area and do our best to protect them. Sometimes it is easier to want to save something when you see it really isn't all that different from you.

What were some of the characteristics that made the **habitats** different?

Why don't all plants and animals share the exact same **habitat**?

What are some ways you can enjoy natural **habitats** and see all of the differences that exist?

Those were some great responses. Thanks! We have explored a variety of habitats today, including our own. Keep in mind your habitat and the habitats of people and animals around you, and remember to be respectful of all habitats.



APPLICATION

Large Group Suggestion: *Visit one of the selected **habitats** to observe wildlife and plants.*



Continued One-on-One Discussion/Activity: *Identify careers in agriculture that would allow your mentee to manage his or her favorite **habitat** and discuss what that job would entail.*