Create a Comic Book

Grade Level

Grades 1

Objectives

This activity is designed to start your at home-student(s) in recognizing themselves as scientists and thinking critically about problem-solving. The goal is to teach concepts through arts integration and to encourage creativity. As with all lessons provided, please feel free to adapt them according to your students' abilities. Certain scientific vocabulary may or may not be appropriate for your students' level of understanding. Take these ideas, make them your own and your students will have a greater chance at success.

How would you use art to share what you learned about the basic needs of an animal found at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo?

Procedures

1. Begin by asking your at-home student(s) what they learned about basic needs of all living things. Ask them to write down (or write down for them) all the things that they can recall.
2. Next, choose an animal found at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and discuss how this animal obtains basic needs from the environment or habitat where it lives (food, water, shelter, and space). Discuss how these needs are the same for this animal at the Zoo, and in the wild. Remind them that the Zoo provides habitats that mimic the animal's natural environment.
3. What might be challenging to explain about how this animal obtains basic needs from the environment? What are some ways they could make it easier to understand?
4. Brainstorm and record ideas of different ways that your at-home students can share stories and gain new information (verbal, visual, performance-based, etc.) about this topic using art. Are there art forms that combine the narrative of events with pictures and artistic portrayals of those events?
5. Explain that you and your at-home students will be creating a comic book. This comic book will depict how your chosen animal obtains its basic needs from the environment.

Remind them to include pictures and words to help tell the story of how the animal is obtaining basic needs.

6. Remind your at-home students that this is a creative way to share their scientific thoughts and observations from this lesson, so they want to make sure to include the information you talked about at the start of the activity. Feel free to re-watch the videos in this unit if students need help remembering some of the concepts.
7. When the comic book is completed, read and view the completed work. Discuss the use of a comic book at explaining scientific concepts like an animal's basic needs.

Standards

Ohio Academic Content Standards
Grade 1 Life Science Topic: Basic Needs of Living Things Living things have basic needs, which are met by obtaining materials from the physical environment.
Grade 1 Visual Arts Standard: Perceiving/Knowing Recognize and describe that people create art and art objects to communicate ideas and serve different purposes.