

Pets in the Classroom - Aquarium

Our Ecosystem Vocabulary:

- Ecosystem
- Living organisms
- Aquatic
- Interacting
- Environment
- Adaptation
- Nonliving

Lesson 1:

First, I show the video of my aquarium in our classroom. Discussion begins with the question, "what do you see in the video?" Students draw what they see or write what they see. We share aloud, and I'll draw/list what is mentioned.

Once fish is mentioned, we discuss what a living organism is and characteristics of living organisms verses nonliving. Working in pairs, using plain construction paper divided in half, kids draw pictures of living and nonliving organisms. Share when completed.

Lesson 2:

Review vocabulary from lesson 1: Living organism and the characteristics.

Watch the video again focusing on what the fish are doing to survive (adaptations) in an aquatic environment. I list these on the board.

Students return to their desks after being gathered on the rug to draw one of the fish in the aquarium and listing the adaptations fish need to survive in their science notebooks.

Lesson 3:

Review vocabulary from lesson 1: living organism and the characteristics, aquatic, environment, adaptation,

Draw the aquarium including the living organisms and nonliving items seen in the aquarium in their science notebooks. Share a few pictures.

After sharing, discussion ecosystem - living organisms interacting with nonliving things. The key question is how are the fish using the nonliving items in the tank?

Share other short clips of aquatic animals from Youtube and discuss the key question again.

Lesson 4:

Go online or use books, select an aquatic animal to research. Locate information on habitat, diet, predators, adaptations, and interesting facts.

Type or write a report.