

Pets In the Classroom Lesson Plan

2nd Grade

Inquiry Based Classroom

Curriculum is driven by a central idea (Perspectives influence how people respond to disruption in the natural world.)

Integration of multiple academic subjects:

- Math
- Literacy
- Science
- Social Studies

Students questions drive inquiry (learning).

Frontloading (developing students background knowledge, beginning of unit) Start with their world!

Procedure

1. Get the students excited!

Frontloading

Set out an empty terrarium with no animal before students enter the classroom. Do not say anything about terrarium. Listen to the students communicate about the new object in the classroom. Allow students to question and make predictions about what will live in the terrarium. Meet whole group to discuss students excitement about the terrarium. Pose the question , “What kind of animal will live in the terrarium?”

- Use post-it notes for students to write or draw their predictions
- Create a bar graph with the following labels: mammal, reptile, bird, or insect
- Graph students predictions



Procedure

2. Introduce the classroom pet.

Research

Post a picture of a bearded dragon on the terrarium.

- Have students work in small groups to create a list of questions to research.
 - Anticipate questions:
 - What does the bearded dragon eat?
 - Where does a bearded dragon live?
 - How big does the bearded dragon get?

Give students reading texts to research their questions.

- Example texts used for research:
 - [Petco Care Sheet - Bearded Dragon](#)
 - "Bearded dragon." *World Book Kids*. World Book, 2015. Web. 03 Jul. 2015.



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bearded_Dragon. July 3, 2015._

Extension Activities

Data Collection:

Based on student questions the following data was collected and recorded in their science journals:

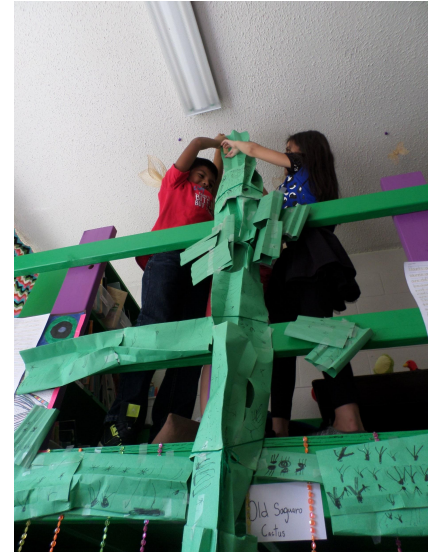
- Students measured the bearded dragon with a tape measure each week.
- Record how many times bearded dragon sheds skin.
- Diet
- Bowel movements

Extension Activities

After learning about the bearded dragon students started asking questions about desert habitats. After building the habitat students learned about human disruption that take place in the desert.



Students researched and created different types of animals that live in a desert habitat.



Students researched and created plants that can grow in desert habitats.