



Guess that Animal!

Overview: Students will work in teams to read about an animal that lives in the St. Louis River Estuary. They will then work together to draw and name the animal that they think the description describes. This allows students to become familiar with animals that could be present around their school or homes that live in the estuary while also learning valuable lessons in teamwork.

Subject Areas: Science

Grade Levels: K-5, 6-8, 9-12

Topics: Animals, Ecology

Great Lakes Literacy Principles:

4. Water makes Earth habitable; fresh water sustains life on land.
5. The Great Lakes support a broad diversity of life and ecosystems.

Materials:

- Paper (8x11" cut in half, each half for one animal)
- Giant paper (optional)
- Pencils/pens/markers/etc.
- Animal description cards-the cards are in a PowerPoint format so printing as 2 slides on a page will make for great cards. Slides 1-20 are the hand-outs while slides 21-40 are to show pictures of the animals
- Attached key for after activity

Put the students in small groups. You can assign each student a job if you'd like: Readers (reads card), Illustrators (draws picture), and Presenters (presents to the class). Hand out slides 1-20 that have the descriptions. Since each group will have more than one card, the jobs can be rotated. Have students also write the name of each animal on the drawing. Each card will have a description and a number, the number is listed in the key with the animal it is describing. Have students present their animals and use the PowerPoint (slides 21-40) to show pictures of the animals. To really bring the ideas together, you can have students glue or tape their animals on a giant piece of paper and, as a class, draw the habitat.

1. Wolf
2. Bat
3. Eagle
4. Caterpillar
5. Otter
6. Bear
7. Fox
8. Fish
9. Macro invertebrate
10. Butterfly
11. Bumble Bee
12. Robin
13. Rabbit
14. Snake
15. Frog
16. Toad
17. Turtle
18. Dragonfly
19. Porcupine
20. Deer