

Reverse Charades

Chicago-Calumet River system Field Trip Activity

Background

This is a twist on the classic format of “Charades” but one that is a lot less stressful for the person acting out the charade. Instead of just one person acting, your entire class acts out clues together while one person from the class (taking turns, of course) guesses.

Preparation

Before the game, print off the animal cards and cut them out. Feel free to add to the images.

This game can be played as one large class, or as teams competing, depending on your class’ knowledge of animals.

A good idea before playing this game is to have your students research some of the common native animals that live in our region. You can even give them the list of animals in the game, have them choose their favorite and give a short presentation on it. They could also make a collage of all the animals from photos or their own drawings.

Procedure

For the game, split your group into teams (if desired). Each team (or entire class) selects a guesser (everyone gets a turn guessing) and the rest of the team acts out the animals.

The teacher holds the animal cards for only the actors to see, but not the guesser. Shhh! Not a peep among the team members acting. You lose a point if you speak or “mouth” any words to each other or the guesser. Use of objects (or even classmates) is definitely permitted.

Grade Level: 3rd – 12th

Duration: 30 minutes to 1 hour

Objectives:

1. Students develop observation skills.
2. Students learn about animal movements.

Materials:

- ◆ Copies of the animal pictures in the following pages cut so that there is one animal per piece of paper.

Standards:

11.A.3a, 11.A.3c, 11.A.4c

NGSS:

MS-ETS1-1, MS-ETS1-3,
HS-ETS1-2















