

Missouri Species Coloring Sheet Lesson Ideas (for 2nd Grade)

intended for use with coloring sheets at <http://www.meea.org/coloringsheets.shtml> created by Jan Weaver for the Missouri Environmental Education Association. Sheets may be copied and used for free for educational purposes.

Science

Have the students work in pairs or small groups. Hand out 9 to 12 sheets ensuring a good mix of organism (plants, animals, fungi, and terrestrial, aquatic, vertebrate and invertebrate). Have each pair or group discuss, answer and report on the questions below.

Life Sciences - Organisms

- Compare the legs of different animals to see how their shapes are different and the same. Do you think this affects the kinds of food they can eat?
- Compare the flowers of different plants to see how their shapes and sizes are different and the same. Do you think this affects how they are pollinated?
- For an animal, are its offspring like the adults or are they different? Which animals come from eggs and which animals are born alive? How do different animals take care of their offspring?

Life Sciences – Ecosystems

- Arrange the sheets to show which organisms might eat other organisms. Could some organisms be in more than one place? On a separate sheet of paper, draw a diagram of your arrangement, using the names or images of the organisms and arrows to show how they are interdependent.
- Make a list of the different kinds of habitats in which different organisms live. Which organisms live in the same habitat? Are there any organisms that live in two different kinds of habitats?
- How do different organisms interact with humans?
- Make up three other questions about organisms.

English Language Arts

Reading - Informational Text

Have each student pick one coloring sheet on which to focus.

- What are some key details about each organism? Pick one and find out what it does, when it does things, where it lives, why and how it does things.
- What happens to the organism at different times of the year? Are there things that all the organisms are doing at the same time? Which organisms are active in the winter in Missouri? What are the other organisms doing at this time?
- Write down some words that are new to you. Can you figure out what they mean? Use a dictionary to look up new words. Are there any words that might not be English (hint, they are in italics).
- What did the person who made the sheets want you to learn about?
- What kinds of information do the different images provide to help?
- Find a story about one of the organisms. Is the information in the coloring sheet and the story the same? If not, how is it different?

Writing

Have each student research an organism that lives in Missouri and make a new coloring sheet for it using a blank coloring sheet

Speaking and Listening

Arrange students in small groups with other students who have different organisms, and have them discuss how their organisms could interact with each other.

Math

Have the students work in pairs or small groups.

Measurement (and pre-proportions)

- Make a table showing the length of each animal as an adult. Cut pieces of paper so that they represent the lengths of different animals. Arrange the pieces in order from smallest to biggest. How many of the small animals would equal the biggest animal?
- Make a table showing the weight of each animal as an adult. Cut pieces of paper so that they represent the weights of different animals (you may need to think about the best way to do this). How many of the small animals would equal the biggest animal?
- Compare the size of the animals in the pictures to the sizes listed on the sheet. Are they same? How much bigger or smaller than the actual size is the picture. (Measure animals along the back, don't include the tail if present)

Modeling

- Arrange the sheets to show which organisms might eat other organisms. Could some organisms be in more than one place? On a separate sheet of paper, draw a diagram of your arrangement, using the names or images of the organisms and arrows to show how they are interdependent. (same as science activity)
- Arrange the sheets so that similar organisms are in the same group (You can use the characteristics of organisms or the classification information listed under the name). Now arrange the groups so that similar groups are in the same larger group. Repeat until there are only three big groups (plants, animals and fungi). Draw a diagram that shows how the groups are grouped.