

LEARNING CENTER

MARIE-CHRISTINE BASQUE

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ED5621—INTRO TO SOCIAL STUDIES IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

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Second Grade Learning Centre

Lesson Title: Animal Classification

Grade Level: Grade 2 Social Studies (You and Your World)

Lesson Topic: Growth and Development

Objectives: Students will begin to identify the differences between different kinds of animals. The learning centre addresses the social studies learning outcome 2.1.2 Identify a variety of sources and ideas to investigate and illustrate **key concepts** in animal development. (New Brunswick Department of Education, 2005, p. 115.) This lesson would be created to initiate and welcome students to take into considerations the characteristics of each animal group to better understand the life cycle as well as the similarities and differences that can be seen between each group.

Materials:

- A PowerPoint on animal classification (description of each group)
- Timer
- Animal images and animal categories (classification) for the activity.

Procedure: In this learning centre, I will:

- Begin by introducing the term “animal classification” to the small group of students. (30 seconds—60 seconds.)
- Ask learners to think about what the six animal classification categories/groups/families could be. Students will share their ideas of these groups. (30 seconds—90 seconds.)
- Ask learners to put 42 animal images into the right animal classification categories (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects and fish). (2 minutes)
- Present the six different animal classification categories to my learners by stating characteristics specific to each animal classification family. After each slide, students and I will confirm by comparing with the characteristic presented previously if they were correct for each image they had put into the category. (7 minutes)
- If time remains before learners go to the next station, learners will be asked to find and state similarities they remember between some animal classification groups.

Post-Learning Centre Extension Ideas:

- Ask learners to paint or draw an animal from an “animal groups” using the characteristics presented in the presentation (art class).
- Ask learners to share what they know about the life cycle of a specific animal (example: life cycle of a frog, a butterfly, or a human).
- Ask learners to write a description about an animal or an “animal group” for them to show their understanding of what was thought during the learning centre (language arts class).
- Bring learners outdoors for them to explore certain animals in their natural habitats while taking into consideration the similarities and differences between each animal category.