

SAMPLE ACTIVITY PLAN

PETS AND PESTS

A CREATURE TOUR OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD

CONTENT OBJECTIVES

Examine the relationship of humans with other living things; classify living things according to characteristics; understand the role of opinion in classification. Use observation, description, classification, explanation, presentation.

CONTENT TEACHING STRATEGY

Introduce Discuss what animals or creatures are in the neighborhood, pets children have had or know, other living things around, like insects. Are they good or bad? What makes something a pet or a pest? Are there creatures that are neither? What words are used to describe creatures we like and don't like (horrible, scary, cute, etc.)?

Do Divide into groups: pets, pests, and neutral (other). Take walk, each group lists what they see in their category. Look for cute, scary, dangerous, etc.

For each pet or pest, make a sketch or write a few words to describe it.

Compare lists. Are any creatures on both? Discuss how something can be a pet and a pest at the same time.

What makes a pet or pest scary, interesting, dangerous, or boring? If they took someone on a creature tour of the neighborhood, what would they show? Which pets or pests?

Divide into two or three groups and ask each to plot out a tour area. Draw or make symbols for where the best/most interesting, most scary, dangerous, etc., creatures are found. Plan a tour route.

Have each group prepare the guide's talk, select a tour leader, plan the tour, make handouts for people on the tour

Each group conducts a tour for the other group. Invite others to join!

NEED

Paper for notes, observations, sketches, folders, prepared map (if needed) to guide mapping the tour area, large sheets of paper and markers for map making.

COMPREHENSION CHECK & ASSESSMENT

Discussion, maps (can go in portfolio), tours, questions asked during tour, participation checklists, self-evaluations.

FOLLOW-UP NOTES

Did this work? _____

How to improve it? _____

