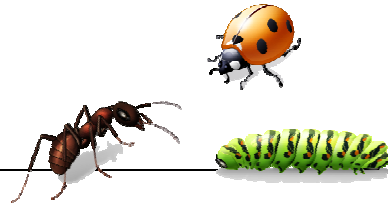


Lesson: Observing and Comparing Animal Structures



Materials needed:

various animals for observations (meal worms, fish, insects, hermit crabs, etc)
hand held microscope
magnifying glass
rulers for measuring
journals for recording observations
crayon, pencil, or marker

Learning objectives: (Students will)

- Observe animals using science tools (hand lens, ruler, hand-held microscope) to notice structures that assist the animal in locomotion
- Describe animal structures observed using pictures and words
- Compare differences in animal structures to make predictions about type of movement

Engage: How do animals move to get the food and water they need to survive?

Teacher engages students in a discussion about what they know about animal structures after reading a selection such as Giant Pop-Out Bugs by Chronicle Books LLC.

ISBN: 978-0-8118-6287

Explore: Observations of various animals in the classroom, home, and around the school

Children make observations of animals using the tools provided and record observations in their science journal.

Explain: What structures do the animals have that help them to move? Compare the structures you found on different animals (using your science journal).

Children read with each other in their small groups using the entries from their science journal.

Elaborate: What type of structures did you observe on the animals? How do you these structures help the animal to move? Do animals move in different ways? Why?

Children share journal entries with each other to clarify ideas and communicate their understanding of how the observed structure helps with the type of movement the animal uses.

Evaluate: At what level is the student able to make and record observations of animal structures in a science journal?

Not Yet	Beginning	Mastered
Child is not interested in observing the animal	Child makes observations with adult prompting and guidance. Attempts to use the hand lens.	Child makes observations, uses hand lens, shares observations and asks questions
Child does not draw a picture of the animal in science notebook	Child draws a picture of the observed animal with imaginary structures.	Child includes only observed structures in journal drawing with specific detail.