

Title: Classifying Different Animals

By: Jay Sheets

Grade Level: 3rd

Subject: Science

Length: 5 minutes

Standard: S.C. 3.4.1 Demonstrate that a great variety of living things can be sorted into groups in many ways using various features, such as how they look, where they live, and how they act, to decide which things belong to which group.

Objectives: After the students are finished with the activity, they will then write one animal that per biome that would live there (Tundra, Deciduous Forest, Rain Forest, Desert, Water, Coniferous Forest, Grassland) with a 100% accuracy.

Assessment: Prior to the demonstration, students will then go back to their seat and write down one animal per biome. Once they are finished with this, they will then hand in their answers.

Materials: Pictures of a couple different animals that live in the different biomes.

Prior Lessons: Before this lesson students will have an understanding of how the different biomes create a home for different animals because of their make up. From this knowledge they will be able to smoothly flow through this quick lesson and activity.

Introduction: Draw a picture of your favorite animal.

Demonstration: After you have them finish their drawings gather their attention by pointing out your different signs you have up around the room. Now ask the students to share with the class their animal that they drew a picture of. You will not be able to have everyone share due to time restraints, but allow as many as possible to share. Once they are finished sharing explain to them how certain animals can only survive in certain places, such as a polar bear and how it can only live in the tundra because of the cold conditions. Another example you could provide them with is how an otter needs to be by some sort of freshwater source in order to survive because it needs the water for its home and for food. Once you give a few examples have the students then take their drawings and post them with tape next to the biome that

they think their animal belongs to. Questions to ask to get the students thinking:

- What would happen to the species if the ocean would run out of salt? Could they survive in fresh water?
- Explain what would happen if we took a polar bear and placed him in the desert. (Analysis)
- Using the student's drawings, ask them if they think any of their animals could adapt to a different biome. (Application)
- Do any of you have examples of animals that can adapt and explain how they might adapt? (Evaluation)

Closure: Once the students are finished with their scientific inquiry, have them get out a sheet of paper and place an animal per biome. This will be their exit slip they have to hand in before they leave. By doing this, they will see a difference in what a biome does for animals and how if you take an animal out of its natural environment it may not survive.

Future Lessons: To expand on this topic, I could integrate writing into it by having the students write a story about their favorite animal surviving in their biome. They could do some research on that animal and find out what they like to eat and a couple facts about the animal.