LESSON PLAN by Jenny Stiffler

Lesson: What’s In It and Who Eats It? Length ___30 Minutes____

Age or Grade Intended ______ First Grade___

Academic Standard(s): Science 1.4.3 Observe and explain that animals eat plants or other animals for food.

Performance Objectives: After investigating the object given (the bag of Grained Livestock Feed), the students will demonstrate their gained knowledge by drawing three things farm animals might eat with at least two correct.

Assessment: The teacher will informally assess the students due to this will be the opening lesson for this standard through observation. The teacher will also be able to assess the students informally during the discussion section of the lesson.

Advanced Preparation by Teacher: The teacher will need to pre-make zip lock baggies for the students. Each baggie will need to contain two cups of textured (grained) livestock feed. The teacher will also need to copy enough copies of the worksheet for each student.

Procedure:

Introduction/Motivation: (Engage) Tell the students a story to start the lesson. “Today I was walking around a store buying dog food for my dog. I was walking up to the cashier to check out when I noticed a broken bag on the floor. There was this substance spilling from the bag which scattered all over the floor. I tried to figure out what it was that was spilling all over the floor, but I am going to need your help. I have brought some of this for you and your classmates to help answer this question. What is this and what is it used for?” (Bloom’s Knowledge, Comprehension, Gardener’s Auditory)

Step-by-Step Plan: 1. (Encourage) Each pod of four students is given a bag of the livestock feed. Instruct the students to investigate the contents of the baggie to help solve the question. (Bloom’s Knowledge, Gardener’s Auditory)

2. Allow the students time to investigate their contents. The teacher will walk around and observe the students at work. Instruct the students to answer the question in their pod to be shared with others during the discussion. Ask the students, “What is in this? What can you identify in this baggie? Is there any objects that you have seen before?” (Bloom’s Comprehension, Gardener’s Kinsethitic, Tatical)

3. (Engage) After about 15 minutes of the students investigations, bring the class back together for a discussion. Ask the students what they thought this substance was and write their answers on the board. Once every group has given an answer, ask how they arrived at that answer and record it on the board next. Then ask the students what is in their substances (what are the different materials?) Record their thoughts on the board as well. (Bloom’s Synthesis, Gardener’s Visual, Auditory)
4. Pull the students thoughts together to reach the correct answer. Explain that this was Livestock feed that had been spilled on the floor. Ask the students to explain what types of animals would eat this type of feed? Explain that this is for domestic farm animals. They have flat teeth and need the farmer to feed them. Go into further discussion with the students about how the farmer grows the food for the animals which consist of grains, hays, and grasses.

**Closure:** Have the students draw on their own paper three things that farm animals might eat. Explain to the students that tomorrow’s lesson will focus on what other types of animals eat, such as tigers.

**Adaptations/Enrichment:** For the student who struggle with group interaction, have the classroom aid sit with him during this lesson to encourage him. The students who are shy will be prompt by the teacher to share their thoughts with the class. For the advanced students, have those students write a sentence about their baggie. These students will also be asked to write a sentence on their paper about which animals would eat grass and grain besides farm animals.

**Self-Reflection:** After the lesson has been taught, evaluate the effectiveness of your teaching and planning. Was it successful? What would you do differently next time to improve the lesson? Include any comments that you received by an observing adult or the students you taught. Next time, should I use a different object? Did the students stay engaged? Did I allow enough time for the lesson to take place?