In the Small, Small Pond

By Denise Fleming

About this book

Grade Level Equivalent: 2.5
Lexile Measure:
Guided Reading Level: K
Age: Age 6, Age 7, Age 5
Genre: Poetry and Rhymes
Subject: Habitats and Ecosystems, Pond Life, Seasons

Overview

Using *In the Small, Small Pond* is a simple way to introduce the environment and habitat to young children. Students love learning about the various animals.

Objective

Students will "recognize that animals (including humans) and plants are living things that grow, reproduce, and need food, air, and water." --*Massachusetts Science and Technology/Engineering Curriculum Framework*

Materials

- *In the Small, Small Pond* by Denise Flemming
- Books on, or pictures of: tadpoles, geese, dragonflies, turtles, herons, frogs, minnows, water bugs, swallows, crayfish, ducks, raccoons, beavers, muskrats
- colored markers
- large sheet of butcher paper

Set Up and Prepare

I find assigning teams of students to draw particular animals or plants helps to create a more cohesive mural. You may contact a local science museum or library to see if they would like to display your mural. It's a wonderful way for students to share their learning with the community.

Directions

Explain that students will be creating a summertime mural depicting animals and plants. Discuss where the different features might best be drawn on the paper. Assign teams of students to specific animals or plants. Give them time to look through books and pictures before using the markers to create the mural.
Lesson Extensions

Have students create a mural of a local habitat. Have students label the various creatures. They could even write information about them on index cards that could then be posted on the drawing.

- Subjects:
  Reading, Arts and Crafts, Animals, Early Reading, Habitats and Ecosystems, Early Science, Plant Life Cycles, Science through Literature, Summer, Summer Themes

- Skills:
  Reference Sources, Science

- Duration:
  60 Mins