

SECOND GRADE

Life Science: organisms depend on their habitat's' nonliving parts to satisfy their needs

Earth Science: weather and the changing seasons impact the environment and organisms such as humans, plants, and other animals

Activity #1: Needs Scavenger Hunt

Objective: Search for the living and non-living components of a habitat that help an animal survive.

Supplies: this story, walking shoes, and the will to go explore

Procedure:

- Follow along with the story of Jack the Rabbit as he searches for materials to help him survive!

Jack the Rabbit is getting ready for winter in Colorado. Soon all the grass will be covered with blankets of snow, so Jack is trying his best to make the most of the warm weather before winter arrives. Let's go outside and search for the things Jack may need! Can you think of the things he needs to survive? (Hint: animals have 4 basic needs! Give them a little bit of time to brainstorm before you read on)

- Find something that Jack eats! (Grass)
- Find something that Jack drinks! (Water)
- Find something that Jack uses to live in (A burrow underground)

Awesome! You've found 3 of the 4 basic needs that Jack needs: food, water, and shelter. But rabbits needs ONE more thing to live a happy life-- room to roam and play! Can you think of where Jack the Rabbit would like to play? Go see if your guess was true and see if you can find any of Jack's friends roaming around!

Jack relies on things that are living and things that are not living to help him survive. Can you think of things that are living that help Jack? Can you find any of those items? (search for living things-- grass, other rabbits) What about non-living things? Can you find any of those things? (search for non living things-- dirt for burrows, sunshine for heat, water to drink)

Activity #2- My Habitat!

Objective: Kids learn a lot about habitat in 2nd grade, you can help extend this learning at home by talking about the components of a 'habitat' and how it helps an animal

survive. Follow along with the steps below to help explore your child's' habitat (your home).

Supplies Curiosity!

Procedure

1. Ask your child about their favorite animal. What is their favorite animal? Where does it live? What does it need to survive?
 - a. Ex. my favorite animal is a tiger- it lives in the jungle, it needs to eat other animals, drink water, and have a place to sleep.
2. Explain that where the animal lives is its habitat.
3. Then ask your child "Could your animal live in a different place?"
 - a. The goal here is to get them thinking about how animals interact with their habitats.
 - b. Ex. Could a tiger live in Antarctica? Why not?
 - c. Ex. Could an elephant live in Fort Collins? Why not?
4. This is when you want to start comparing their animals habitat with their own habitat. You can do this by making a chart, drawing pictures, etc.
 - a. Ex. In my habitat I have a bed with a mattress and sheets, in the tigers' habitat they have a bed of grass.
5. Do some EXPLORING! Have your child look around and really think about what needs they have at their home that can be compared to the needs of an animal.
 - a. Ex. We have a sink for water, a Tiger has a river for water.

EXTENSION: Think of an animal (real or imaginary) and draw a picture of your animal interacting with their habitat. Remember to draw their food, water, and shelter!