



Frisch's Outreach

Animal Senses: The Eyes Have It! (Pre-K-K) Extensions



At a glance

This lesson will allow students to explore their sense of sight and the sense of sight of animals through explorative activities and animal visits.

Goal

This lesson is designed to offer students time to explore their sense of sight while helping them to understand how and why animals use their sense of sight for survival.

Objectives

1. Students will be able to name the sense and body parts that help them see.
2. Students will understand that the sense of sight aids both people and animals in survival.
3. Students will develop a respect for animals and the role they play in the natural world.

Theme

People and animals use their sense of sight in many different ways to help them survive in the world around them.

Sub-themes

1. People and animals have their eyes placed in locations on their bodies that help them survive in their unique habitats.
2. Animals have different kinds of eyes to help them survive in their particular habitat.
3. Animals will use visual signs and displays to find each other, attract mates, or to remain hidden.

Academic standards

Ohio Science Academic Content Standards	<i>Early Childhood Standards (ages 4-5)</i> Scientific Inquiry: 1, 2, 5 Scientific ways of Knowing: 1, 3 <i>Kindergarten Standards</i> Scientific Inquiry: 1, 2, 4, 10 Scientific Ways of Knowing: 1, 2, 3
Kentucky Core Content-Science	<i>Grades Primary-4</i> The Characteristics of an Organism: SC-E-3.1.1

Vocabulary

Eye—a special light sensitive sensory structure that is the image forming organ of sight.

Iris—the opaque contractible diaphragm perforated by the pupil and forms the colored portion of the eye.



Nictitating membrane—a thin membrane found in many vertebrates at the inner angle or lower lid of the eye capable of extending across the eyeball.

Pupil—the contractile aperture (an opening or hole) in the iris of the eye.

Tapetum lucidum—a membrane of cells in the back of the eye that acts like a mirror and reflects light back to the retina which essentially allows the retina to catch light twice.

Extension

Take a *Beauty All-Around Hike!*—Give each hiker a small bag. As you hike collect “Beautiful Things”. Make sure not to hurt plants or animals while collecting. When you return from the hike make a collage. Students can even construct binoculars from finished toilet paper rolls to view beautiful wild things!

Button, Button, Who Has the Button?—Have the students gather in a circle. The students then close their eyes. A secret item, such as a button, is then given to one of the students. They hide it behind their back. All of the students open their eyes. Can anyone guess who has the button? Can they look and watch for clues? Do animals have to look for clues?

Co-operative Camouflage!—Can students look at what they are wearing today and find something in their classroom the same color so they can “hide” to stay safe?

Ant’s Eye View—Can you be as tiny as an ant? Have the children lie down on the grass. What does the sky look like? The grass? What would a person’s shoe look like? A mouse’s foot? Try different positions (tummy up, tummy down, on your side). Discuss what you see!

Peek-a-Zoo—In a manila folder, paste an animal’s picture. Make flaps over the picture. Lift different flaps to reveal part of the picture. Can you guess the animal? Lift all of the flaps to see!

Spider Web Marble—Take a solid colored piece of construction paper and dip a marble in white paint. Roll it to make a beautifully patterned Spider web. Now construct a Spider to inhabit the web.

Make a picture book!—Will the book be about how people use their sense of sight? Will it be about how we would look with animal eyes?



Resources

Books:

Bowden, Marcia. Nature for the Very Young: A Handbook for Indoor & Outdoor Activities. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 1989.

Ganeri, Anita. Questions & Answers About Animal Camouflage. Aladdin Books. 1991.

Wilson, Ruth. Fostering a Sense of Wonder During the Early Childhood Years. Greyden Press. 1983.

Websites:

ALA's Great Websites for Kids:

Animals

<http://www.ala.org/gwstemplate.cfm?section=greatwebsites&template=/cfapps/gws/displaysection.cfm&sec=1>

Awesome Library – Kids

<http://www.awesomelibrary.org/Classroom/Science/Animals/Animals.html>

Awesome Library – Teachers

<http://www.awesomelibrary.org/Classroom/Science/Animals/Animals.html>

Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden

www.cincinnati-zoo.org

Internet Public Library/Kidspage/
Animals (comprehensive listing)

<http://www.ipl.org/kidspage/browse/mas4500>

KinderNature: A Resource for Early
Childhood Educators

<http://kindernature.storycounty.com>

National Geographic: Animals

<http://www3.nationalgeographic.com/animals/>

National Association for the Education
of Young Children

www.naeyc.org

