Time: 45 minutes

Overview:

The purpose of this lesson is to allow students to explore the different characteristics of insects.

Objective:

The objective of the lesson is to have the students put together an organized collection of insects and be able to identify the different species and characteristics on the test. The students will be working in groups of 2 or 3, and they will have 1 week to put together a collection of required insects. They will also have the opportunity to earn bonus points by collecting from the list of optional insects. After the collection is in, the students should try to score an 80% or better on the test.

Materials:

- Display Board/Box
- Construction Paper
- Markers
- Pins (to display the insects)
- Computer/Internet Access
- List of Insects
- Test
- The Outdoors
Procedure:

1. The teacher will begin by assigning the students into groups of 2 or 3. Explain the instructions to them and give them the list of required and optional insects to collect. (10 minutes)
2. Allow the students to go outside and try to collect insects for the first few days. They should choose to display the insects on a display board or box.
3. Later in the week, begin reviewing the characteristics of the different kinds of insects. (15 minutes)
4. For homework, the students should research (on their own) to find out more about the insects they have collected. The teacher should have the students use their Dropvine accounts to share the useful links they have found with their group members, http://www.dropvine.com/.
5. After the assignment is due, give the test over the characteristics of insects.

Standards:

AS.1. Students know that organisms are classified, concentrating on a general survey of all living things, then specifically how certain characteristics categorize animals in a taxonomic key

Rubric:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Insect Collection</td>
<td>Students found all required insects or Students found most of the required insects and a few of the bonus insects</td>
<td>Students found many of the required insects or Students found some insects and all bonus insects</td>
<td>Students found some insects or Students found very few insects and all bonus insects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>The presentation is well organized and appealing</td>
<td>The presentation is somewhat organized and students made an attempt to make it look neat</td>
<td>The presentation has no organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Students found a great deal of valuable information and shared it with each other using Dropvine</td>
<td>Students find some valuable information and shared it with each other using Dropvine</td>
<td>Students did very little research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>Students get 90% or more of the questions right</td>
<td>Students get 75-89% of the questions right</td>
<td>Students get 60-74% of the questions right</td>
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</tbody>
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