

Title: Guess the Mammal

Objective: Ask *yes* or *no* questions to determine an unknown mammal

Time: 10 minutes

Materials Needed: Pictures of mammals or stuffed mammals which are hidden in a box or out of sight (only one is needed at a time)

Activity

Suggested Season: Any

Suggested Grade Level: K-3

Indoors or Outdoors: Either

Theme: Mammals

Topic: Inquiry

Directions:

1. Have the students sit in a circle and place a box in the middle of the circle.
2. Tell students there is a picture of a mammal (or a stuffed mammal) inside of the box. They are to see if they can guess what it is by the time each person in the circle has asked a yes or no question.
3. Have the students go around one at a time and ask their question. Answer it with a yes or no. Encourage no repeats for questions which will take careful listening.
4. If a student thinks they know the animal, they can guess- "Is it a ...?" If they are correct, have another picture that you can put in the box and let that student answer the questions.

Discussion Questions:

1. Knowing it was a mammal in the box, what questions do we know we didn't need to ask? *Such as does it have hair or fur?*
2. Would it be easier to answer questions that did not have a yes or no answer?
3. What kinds of questions were the most helpful? *Such as, "can we see them outside in the winter?"*
4. Could we have put a picture of a person in the box? Why?

Standards Addressed:

Science: 0.4.1.1.1.; 0.4.1.1.2.; 1.4.1.1.1.; 3.4.1.1.2.; 3.4.3.2.2.

Language Arts: K.I.B.; K.II.B.; K.III.A.; 1.III.A.; 1.III.B.1.; 2.III.A.; 3.III.A.2.; 3.III.A.8.; 5.III.A.1.; 5.III.A.2.

Math:

Social Studies:

Background Information:

- One group of vertebrate animals is called mammals.
- There are more than 5,000 kinds of mammals.
- They live almost everywhere.
- Mammals are animals that have hair or fur.
- Their babies can drink milk from their mothers.
- They are warm-blooded.
- People are mammals.

Additional Resources:

- *Marvelous Mammals* (Science Vocabulary Readers) by Lydia Carlin

Correlates with:

Greeting – Where’s My Baby?

News and Announcements – Draw a Mammal