

**Project FOCUS
Best Lessons
KINDERGARTEN**

Title of Lesson: Animal Babies and Sound

Theme: Life Science

Unit Number: 6 **Unit Title:** Plants and Animals

Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter codes):

SKL2

SKCS5

Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):

Habits of Mind

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

Content (key terms and topics covered):

Animal babies, life cycle, growth, animal sounds

Learning Activity (Description in Steps)

Abstract (limit 100 characters): This activity teaches kids to match the name of a baby animal with the adult.

Details: I made a basic PowerPoint of pictures of the animal babies and the adult animals so that the students would be able to identify them in real life. I included these animals: duck/duckling, chicken or hen/chick, sheep/lamb, goat/kid, horse/foal, dog/puppy, cat/kitten, cow/calf, pig/piglet, etc. I also printed out several clipart versions of each animal for one of the games we played. I also taped off a section of nine squares for a tic-tac-toe board for the second game we played.

To begin the lesson, we reviewed animal sounds. I held up pictures and they performed the sound for me. You could also find animal sound effects on the internet, play them for class, and then have them guess which animal it was. We also sang Old Macdonald Had a Farm. The preschoolers love songs and I think it is a great way for them to learn. Then, we played a game called "Pen Pals" where I taped a picture of a certain animal on a chair, table, etc. making that area that particular animal pen. Divide the kids up into equal groups for each animal (I had six animals with three kids each). Then, you tell each child what animal they are or pass out pictures face down and instruct them not to tell their classmates which animal they have. Instruct them to sit quietly and listen to directions. Tell them that when you say go, they are only allowed to make their animal sound and try and find the other children who have the same animal that they do. They are not allowed to talk or do anything except make their animal sound. When they find the other two people in their

group, they are supposed to go find their pen and bring the animal picture back to me. The first group to do this wins!

Next, I put the powerpoint on the SmartBoard of the animals and animal babies and we went over each one as a class. Then I would go up and down asking the kids to name the animal and the name of the baby. After reviewing a few times, we played another game to reinforce the information. I split the class into two groups: X's and O's. I had already marked off 9 squares to be our tic-tac-toe board. Then, I would ask for a volunteer from one of the groups. I would ask them to tell me the name of an animal baby when I gave them the name of the animal. If they get it right, they are allowed to pick a spot on the board, just like tic-tac-toe. I had them make either an X or O over the head to show which team they were. I alternated back and forth between X and O until one of the teams got tic-tac-toe and won.

Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):

A book about a farm or farm animals

The music to Old Macdonald (optional)

Picture cut-outs of different farm animals (cow, dog, sheep, chicken, etc.)

Slideshow of real pictures of each baby/adult animal pair

Duct tape or masking tape

Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):

Sources/References:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)