



Design a Fish

Extension Activity for "Fantastic Fish"

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

describe the following characteristics of fish and explain how they allow fish to adapt to their environments: gills, fins, scales, lateral line, color, body shape, sight, smell, taste.

Method:

Students design a fish adapted for a specific aquatic habitat.

Time:

40 minutes

Materials:

large sheets of paper
coloring markers, crayons,
colored chalks, or paints

Procedure:

1. Divide students into small groups. Give each group a large sheet of paper and a set of coloring markers.
2. Ask students to design their own imaginary fish. The fish can live anywhere (even in outer space), but each fish must be adapted to its aquatic environment. Students should consider adaptations already discussed in class, like body shape, color, scales, and fins. Students can also explore other adaptations like reproduction and mouth type (feeding behavior). Students should draw the habitat for their fish and name the fish.

Extension:

Design and describe one or more characteristics that would help your created fish to adapt to the pollution found in its particular aquatic habitat.

Aquatic Project N.C. WILD, "Fashion a Fish"

Project Estuary, "Fish Forms," "Build A Fish"

Evaluation:

Ask each group to report to the rest of the class on the characteristics of their special fish, including identification and description of the adaptations. Ask the students to describe how their fish are adapted for survival in a chosen habitat.