

# Lesson Plan: The Book "A Tree Is A Home" By Pamela Hickman

## Overview:

This lesson plan is designed for preschoolers aged 3-6 and focuses on the book "A Tree is a Home" by Pamela Hickman. The lesson aims to introduce children to the concepts of habitats and the importance of trees as homes for various animals. Through interactive activities, children will develop an understanding of the interconnectedness of nature and the role trees play in providing shelter and support for wildlife.

## Materials:

- "A Tree is a Home" book by Pamela Hickman
- Pictures or illustrations of various animals
- Art supplies (paper, crayons, markers)
- Scissors and glue
- Nature-themed puzzles or matching games (optional)
- Pictures of different types of trees
- Chart paper or whiteboard markers

## Introduction:

Begin the lesson by gathering the children in a circle and showing them the book "A Tree is a Home." Read the book aloud, pausing to point out and discuss the different animals and their habitats. Ask questions like "What kinds of animals did we see in the book?" and "Why do you think the tree is a home for them?". Discuss the concept of habitats and explain that trees are homes for many animals.

## Activities:

### 1. Animal Matching Game (10 minutes):

- Show pictures or illustrations of various animals mentioned in the book.
- Ask the children to match each animal with the appropriate tree it calls home, using visual cues from the book.
- Discuss the characteristics of each animal and why it chose that particular tree as its home.

### 2. Tree Art (20 minutes):

- Provide art supplies and ask the children to draw their own tree and the animals that live in it.
- Encourage them to be creative and use different colors and shapes to represent the animals and their habitats.
- After they finish drawing, have them cut out their animals and glue them onto the tree.

### 3. Tree Exploration (15 minutes):

- Show pictures of different types of trees and discuss their unique features.
  - Take the children outside to a nearby tree and have them observe its bark, leaves, branches, and any signs of animals or insects.
  - Encourage them to use their senses to explore the tree, touching the bark, smelling the leaves (if safe), and listening for any sounds of animals.

#### Closure:

To conclude the lesson, gather the children in a circle and ask each of them to share one thing they learned about trees being homes for animals. Summarize the key points discussed during the lesson, emphasizing the importance of trees and habitats for the well-being of wildlife.

#### Extension Activities:

1. Nature Walk: Take the children on a nature walk to explore different habitats in their surroundings. Encourage them to observe and identify trees and the animals that may live in them.
2. Tree Journal: Provide each child with a small notebook and encourage them to document their observations and drawings of trees and animals they encounter.
3. Tree Planting: Organize a tree planting activity in collaboration with community members or local organizations to teach children the importance of planting and caring for trees.

#### Assessment Objectives:

1. Social-Emotional:
  - Demonstrates curiosity and interest during the story reading and animal matching game
  - Interacts positively with peers during discussions and artwork activities

#### 2. Physical:

- Demonstrates fine-motor skills when drawing and cutting out animals for the tree artwork

#### 3. Language:

- Listens to the story attentively and follows along with the illustrations
  - Uses age-appropriate vocabulary to describe the animals and their habitats during discussions and artwork

#### 4. Cognitive:

- Demonstrates an understanding of the concept of habitats and the role of trees as homes for animals
  - Makes connections between the animals seen in the book and the trees they live in

#### Assessment Methods:

Observations will be made throughout the lesson to assess the children's social-emotional interactions, physical abilities, language skills, and cognitive understanding. The teacher will also engage in discussions with the children and review their artwork

to evaluate their comprehension and ability to express their thoughts. Assessment results will inform teaching practices by identifying areas where additional support or extension activities may be required.