

the book "a tree is a home" by Pamela Hickman

Overview:

This preschool lesson plan is designed for children aged 3-6 and focuses on the book "A Tree Is a Home" by Pamela Hickman. The lesson aims to introduce children to the concept of habitats and explore the idea of trees as homes for various animals. Through this lesson, children will develop an understanding of the importance of trees in our environment and the different types of animals that rely on trees for shelter and food.

Materials:

- "A Tree Is a Home" by Pamela Hickman
- Pictures or illustrations of different animals
- Art supplies (paper, crayons, markers, glue, scissors)
- Toy animals
- Tree-themed worksheets
- Natural materials like leaves, twigs, and acorns (optional)

Introduction:

Begin the lesson by gathering the children in a circle and show them the cover of the book "A Tree Is a Home". Read the title together and ask questions like "What do you think the book is about?" and "What do you think animals might need from trees?". Encourage the children to share their ideas and make predictions. Explain that in the book, they will learn about animals that live in trees and why trees are important to them.

Activities:

1. Read Aloud (15 minutes):

- Read "A Tree Is a Home" by Pamela Hickman aloud to the children, pausing to engage them in discussions and ask questions.
- Show the illustrations and ask children to identify the animals they see and how they might be using the tree as their home.

2. Animal Tree Art (20 minutes):

- Provide art supplies and encourage the children to draw or create their own animal tree homes.
- They can choose their favorite animal from the book or use their imagination to create a new animal home.
- After creating their artwork, ask them to share and explain why they chose that specific animal and how it might use the tree as its home.

3. Tree Habitat Exploration (20 minutes):

- Set up a nature-inspired station with pictures or toys of different animals that live in trees.
- Let the children explore the materials, observe the different animals, and discuss

how each animal might use the tree for shelter or food.

- Encourage them to make connections between the animals they see and the book they read.

Closure:

Conclude the lesson by gathering the children in a circle and asking them to share one thing they learned about animals and trees. Summarize the key points discussed during the lesson, such as the importance of trees as homes for animals. Use this opportunity to reinforce the concept of taking care of trees and the environment.

Extension Activities:

1. Nature Walk: Take the children on a nature walk to a nearby park or garden. Encourage them to observe and identify different trees and the animals that might live in them.
2. Tree Journal: Provide each child with a small notebook and encourage them to create a tree journal. They can draw pictures of trees they see and write or dictate observations about the animals that live in or around them.
3. Tree Puzzle: Create a tree-themed puzzle using a picture of a tree and cut it into several pieces. Allow the children to work together to put the puzzle back together, discussing the different animal homes they see.

Assessment Objectives:

1. Social-Emotional:
 - Shows curiosity and motivation during the read-aloud and exploration activities
 - Participates cooperatively in group discussions, sharing ideas, and listening to others

2. Physical:

- Demonstrates fine-motor skills when creating artwork and manipulating toy animals during the exploration activity

3. Language:

- Listens and understands increasingly complex language during the read-aloud
 - Uses language to express thoughts and ideas when sharing artwork and discussing animal homes

4. Cognitive:

- Demonstrates positive approaches to learning by showing curiosity and persistence
 - Remembers and connects experiences by making connections between animals 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 engagement. The teacher will also listen to the children during group discussions and provide individual feedback during the art activity. Assessment results will inform teaching practices by identifying areas where additional support or extension activities may be

required.