Objectives

The student will identify various animals’ native geographic locations.

Preparation

Divide the class size by three. This number represents how many copies are needed of each type of geography animal funsheet (African, Arctic, and Australian). Photocopy the appropriate amount of each type of funsheet.

Materials

Per student:

- one set of either the Africa, Arctic, or Australia geography animal funsheet
- pair of scissors
- crayons
- paper plate
- piece of 24-inch string/yarn
- piece of 12-inch string/yarn
- 6 pieces of 6-inch string/yarn
- clear tape
- glue

Action

1. Explain that animals may be found on all continents of the world and students will create a mobile with animals native to a specific geographic location.

2. Assign an equal number of students to each of the three geographic location options provided by the geography animal funsheets (Africa, Arctic, and Australia.)

3. Hand out the following materials to each student: scissors, crayons, glue, paper plate, one 24-inch string, one 12-inch string, six 6-inch strings, tape, and one of the African, Arctic, or the Australian geography funsheets (depending what locale the student was assigned.)

4. Instruct students to cut their geographic locations and corresponding animals from their funsheets. NOTE: Animals should be cut in strips; that is, kept in a series of four (do not cut individually.) Students may color their pages either before or after they cut.

5. Place the paper plate on the table so that the bottom is facing upwards. Tape one end of the 24-inch string to the rim of the paper plate. Tape the other end of the string to the opposite rim of the plate. For extra stability, repeat with another string.

6. Glue an end of the 12-inch string between the two geographic location pieces. NOTE: The map outline of both pieces should be facing outward. Next, tape the free end of the 12-inch string to the middle of the paper plate on the top side (opposite of the 24-inch string.)

7. Fold each of the animal strips on the black lines inward to form squares. Then tape the ends of each animal strip together so that the square form is complete. There should be six animal squares. Next, tape the end of a piece of 6-inch string to each animal square. The free ends of the strings are then taped equidistantly around the perimeter on the top side of the plate (same side where the geographic region hangs.) This will create a tiered effect between the animals and their geographic location they inhabit.

8. Hang mobiles around the classroom and discuss the various animals and their native geographic locations.