

Desert Animal Actions

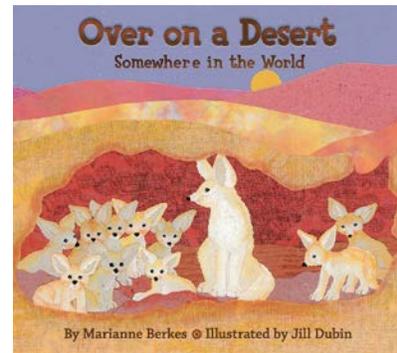
Introduction

In the book, *Over on a Desert*, children are introduced to ten baby animals that live on deserts around the world. In this lesson, children match an animal to one of its behaviors.

(Grades PreK-2)

Materials

- The book *Over on a Desert: Somewhere in the World*
- Copies of bookmarks, free download www.dawnpub/activity



Procedure

1. Teacher Prep: Print out sets of bookmarks, enough so each student has one bookmark.
2. Read the book up to the page with the world map.
3. Ask students, "What actions do you remember each animal doing?"
4. Give each student a bookmark. Tell students you're going to reread the book from the beginning, but this time only read the second verses and don't show the illustrations. For example, on the first page you would read, "So they knelt in the desert in the hot sun." (Other action words/verbs in the book: *flick, stand, sniff, dig, snort, hide, jump, coo, and listen.*)
5. Ask students why the animals behaved as they did. Find out by reading the additional information about each animal in the back pages of the book. How do the actions help the animals survive in the desert? Are the babies' actions the same as their parents?

Optional: Younger children may want to sing the "Over in the Meadow" tune as you read the entire story, acting out each animal's behaviors.

Standards Alignment

Next Generation Science Standards (DCI: K-2)

LS1: From Molecules to Organisms:

- (A) Structures and Processes
- (B) Growth and Development of Organisms
- (C) Information Processing

LS3: Heredity:

- (A) Inheritance of Traits

Common Core ELA (K-2)

Reading: Informational Text

Key Ideas and Details: K.1, 2.1, 3.1

Integration and Knowledge of Ideas:
K.7, 1.7, 2.7, 3.7)