

Moving to the Music!



Introduction

In the book ***Over in the Forest: Come and Take a Peek*** the reader is introduced to ten woodland animals, each behaving in a different way. In this activity, children sing the "Over in the Meadow" tune and move to the music.

Materials Needed

- ◆ A copy of the book
- ◆ Pictures of the ten different animals in the story
- ◆ Action verbs used in the story for the ten animals, written on chalk/white board
- ◆ Music melody for "Over in the Meadow." (Click onto "Teachers/Librarians" and scroll down to the book ***Over in the Ocean, in a Coral Reef*** – click on "singing.")

Key Concepts

- ◆ Each organism has different structures for different functions
- ◆ Students should analyze in terms of systems
- ◆ Behavior is influenced by internal cues (hunger) and external cues (change in environment)

For standards correlation please see our website.

Procedure

1. On the "About the Animals" pages (glossary), copy the ten animals onto large index cards, enlarging the size of each animal.
2. Read the book, ***Over in the Forest: Come and Take a Peek***, including the glossary for older students.
3. Explain to the students that each animal has behaved in a different way. Write the action verbs on a chalk or white board.
4. Assign ten students to come to the front of the room. Give each one an animal picture. They must show the class how they will act out their action verb.
5. Read the story again, this time singing the melody with the children. The child at the front of the room holding the picture of that forest animal acts out the movement.

Nature Connections

- ◆ Ask students for other actions that might show how each animal behaved in the book, e.g. if the student who was the beaver acts out "build" by hammering both fists together, another student might interpret "build" by making the shape of a house.
- ◆ Sing the song again, but this time all the children should act out the typical movements of each animal in their own ways.

Additional Resources

Compare the different animal actions in other books in the "Over" series:

- ◆ ***Over in the Ocean: in a Coral Reef***
- ◆ ***Over in the Jungle: a Rainforest Rhyme***
- ◆ ***Over in the Arctic: Where the Cold Winds Blow***
- ◆ ***Over in Australia: Amazing Animals Down Under***

List the different action verbs the author used for the various animals. Are there any that are the same? Why?