Pond Drama

Introduction

In the book *Jo MacDonald Saw a Pond*, author Mary Quattlebaum introduces children to the plants and creatures of a pond ecosystem. In this activity and its related connections, children create pictures of the creatures and make their own noises and movements.

Materials Needed

◈ Paper
◈ Markers or Crayons
◈ Large blue blanket or fabric (optional)

Key Concepts

◈ Environments are the space, conditions, and factors that affect an individual's and a population's ability to survive and their quality of life.

For standards correlation please see our website.

Procedure

1. Assign each student to a certain plant or creature in the book (reed, frog, dragonfly, etc.).
2. Have them draw a picture of their creature using the book's illustrations as a guide. (Or provide a large photo of each plant/creature.)
3. Spread the blanket on the floor and have each child take place on this "pond."
4. Sing the song, with each child making her creature's sound and holding up her picture at the appropriate time.
5. At the end of the song, have children make their noises all together. What a wild symphony!

Nature Connections

◈ During the reading/song, have children make the movement as well as the noise of each creature.

◈ At the end of the book, Jo MacDonald draws a picture of all the pond creatures and shares it with her grandfather. Ask students to draw a pond with all the creatures and to share it with someone special.

◈ Visit a pond or have children look at a picutre of one in a book or on the internet. Do they see animals that aren't in Jo's pond? As a class, list the animals and their noises. Sing the song again and have children add these animals and their noises.

Additional Resources

Seasonal Changes in a Pond
http://www.hilton.pond.org

What's the Difference Between a Lake and a Pond?
http://www.aquahabitat.com/ponds.lakes.ed.html

Pond and Lake Habitats
http://ethemes.missouri.edu/themes/1458

Lakes and Ponds Biome
http://www.untamedscience.com/biology/world-biomes/lakes-and-ponds-biome