

STEM Newcomer ESL Vocabulary: Animal Adaptations

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This lesson is for 6th-8th grade students who are in their first year of education in English.

We use English vocabulary lessons to learn about all subjects.

TN Science Standards: Biological Change: Unity and Diversity

WIDA Language Domains: Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking
Reading Level 2- Use pre-taught vocabulary to complete simple sentences.
Reading Level 2- Find information from text structure.
Writing Level 2- Complete graphic organizers
Speaking Level 2- Convey content through high-frequency words.
Listening Level 3- Match main idea of familiar texts read aloud to visuals.

Online Resources-

Flocabulary.com- Penguin Rock Band

<https://www.flocabulary.com/unit/4-penguin-rock-band/>

Read and Respond article- Polar Bears

Scholastic News 2- Look Out Mouse: Nocturnal Animal Showdown!

<https://sn2.scholastic.com/issues/2020-21/100220.html>

Edpuzzle- Penguins

<https://edpuzzle.com/media/5f96ed86ebd13b40c0e3b75c>

Activities-

-The students learned ten new vocabulary words through the Flocabulary music video about Penguins: balance, base, dive, enemy, instrument, march, ocean, seal, stack, team. The students will complete various language based

activities with the words, while learning about penguins, their habitat, and adaptations.

- The students read a Flocabulary article about Polar Bears, using the same vocabulary. The article emphasized adaptations of the Polar Bear, as well as, recent climate change in the polar regions. The students answered comprehension questions by using text evidence.

- The students watched a video on nocturnal animals and adaptations. The students focused on key vocabulary: adaptations, nocturnal, silent, predator, and prey. The students read an article, related to the video, on nocturnal animal adaptations: "Look Out Mouse: Nocturnal Animal Showdown".

- Using the text, the students created a Venn diagram of characteristics of owls and mice. The students created a chart, detailing how certain physical traits of both animals help them survive.

- The students practiced listening skills with an Edpuzzle video. The students listened to the narrator discuss the different types of penguins and their adaptations. As they listened, they stopped to answer questions about what they heard.

Assessments-

- Formative assessment of listening and reading domains through vocabulary activities

- Summative vocabulary test

- Formative assessment of reading, listening, and writing domains: Venn diagram, Animal Physical Traits chart

- Summative reading comprehension quiz

- Formative assessment of listening domain- Edpuzzle