

Toby the Turtle

Classroom Activity Exploring Senses and Shapes

G PK-2

Main Points/Rationale

All animal body forms are made of different shapes, sizes and textures. During this lesson students will put together a turtle to explore this idea.

Objectives

Students will be able to describe at least three different kinds of textures after exploring a texture box/bag.

Students will be able to identify at least one object by feeling its texture and shape.

Students will be able to describe what a turtle looks like using their sense of eyesight.

Students will be able to construct a turtle using different geometric shapes.

Standards

PA Standards

1.6 Speaking and Listening; 2.9 Geometry; 3.2 Inquiry and Design; 3.3 Biological Sciences

NJCCCS

3.3 Speaking; 4.2 Geometry and Measurement; 5.1 Scientific Processes; 5.5 Life Science

Prior Knowledge

Five senses

Basic geometric shapes (i.e. rectangle and square)

Materials & Equipment

Turtle outline, scale outlines, crayons or markers, scales (beans, buttons, glitter, construction paper scraps, etc.), glue

Texture box/bag: collection of objects with different textures (carpet, tiles, paintbrushes, hair brushes, cotton balls, yarn, rubber, sandpaper, leather, rocks, etc.)

Warm-Up - 3-5 minutes

Have the texture box/bag set up before the lesson begins.

If you have not done so, introduce the five senses to your students.

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If you have not done so , introduce the following shapes to your students: rectangle, square, oval, triangle.

Transition

During the first activity, students will use their sense of touch to help them describe different objects.

Activity One - Texture Box/Bag - 15 minutes

Have the students sit in a circle on the floor. Put the textured objects in the center of the circle. Give each student a chance to select an object and describe how it feels.

After all the students have described on object, put all the textured objects into the box or bag. Then choose one student at a time to reach in to touch an object in the box or bag. He or she must guess which object they have selected without looking at it.

Transition

Tell the students that they often use their sense of sight to find out what an animal looks like.

Activity Two - A Turtle's Shape - 5-10 minutes

Hand out both turtle worksheets to your students for them to color.

Transition

Tell the students that they can also use their sense of touch to find out about an animal. The skin, fur or feathers of an animal teach us a lot about them.

Activity Three - A Turtle's Scales - 5-15 minutes

Distribute glue and the materials necessary for the students to create scales on their turtles.

Transition

Students should be ready to clean up after about 15 minutes.

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Closing - 2-3 minutes

Review worksheet with students.

Ask:

How many rectangles are on your turtle's body?

How many ovals?

How many triangles?

How many squares?

What does your turtle feel like?

Hang in a prominent place in the classroom.

To complete this lesson and prepare your students for your field trip to the Philadelphia Zoo, ask them what senses they think they will use at the Zoo and how they will use them.

Additional Activities

Have the students draw their own animals using shapes of different sizes and various textures such as feathers or fake fur.

Assessment of Student Performance

Students will participate in a guessing activity, and they will complete a worksheet focusing on shapes and textures.