
ACTIVITY

34

AQUATIC LANGUAGE ARTS

INDIVIDUAL LANGUAGE ARTS PROJECTS WITH AN AQUATIC THEME

SCIENCE SKILLS:

- communicating

CONCEPTS:

- Scientific information may be presented to people in many different forms, not just in science textbooks.

SAMPLE OBJECTIVES:

- Students will be able to communicate scientific information through creative writing.

INTRODUCTION:

People gather science information in many ways, especially after they leave school. This activity allows students to use their imagination to communicate scientific information about one aquatic habitat to other people in creative writing projects. The information contained in the resulting projects should be accurate. For a list of possible habitats, consult Activity 2. Projects may be illustrated if appropriate, but should not be judged on the quality or quantity of art work. The emphasis should be on use of language. Have students select from among this list or add ideas of your own:

- write a short story about an animal living in this habitat that includes a realistic situation, but is written from the animal's point of view
- design and write a travel brochure which would make a person want to visit this habitat
- write a short adventure story about exploring this habitat
- write four weather reports, one each for spring, summer, fall and winter for this habitat
- write and tape a television commercial for this habitat
- write a poem about how this habitat would make you feel when you are in it
- write a habitat review like a theater or movie review which rates the different aspects of the environment.

During class, have students demonstrate their individual projects and let the children discuss them with emphasis on what worked best or was the most exciting, and what you learned from each. While you will grade the work as you see fit, have the students vote on a secret ballot for the projects they feel did the best job of communicating information about a habitat. They might be divided into categories to produce many winners. Tally the results and discuss what was really good about the selections. What helped them learn the most in a limited time? What are the characteristics of good communication? You or the students might select specific projects for presentation at the Aquatic Science Symposium, Activity 36.

