

Case Details

Case Title:

What type of animal is that supposed to be?

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Grade Level(s):

Middle School

Subject(s):

Life Science

Summary:

Why do scientists use those funny looking names? What can the understanding of Latin classification names tell us about an animal? To solve an argument over who knows the most about classification, Tameika, Shakendall, and Antoine invent their own unique animal (accompanied with a proper Latin name) and then create a model or drawing of the animal. To settle the contest, they create a petition for their animal to have the honorary title of "Animal of the Month" at the Local Zoo.

Adapted from:

Animal Classification. Ridgedale Middle School. (2005). Retrieved June 2006 from http://www.fpk.org/start/PBLProjects/LD_Classification/PBLpg6.htm

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Learning Objectives:

1. Classify and associate the 6 kingdoms, classification categories, binomial nomenclature, and the process of scientific naming.
2. Explain why scientist use Latin names as well as identify and characterize members of each kingdom.
3. Integrate knowledge of scientific taxonomies to synthesize a unique product.
4. Classify an invented animal based on its characteristics.

National/State Standards:

Georgia Performance Standards

SCSh1. Students will evaluate the importance of curiosity, honesty, openness, and skepticism in science. (NSES Content Standard A)

S7L1. Students will investigate the diversity of living organisms and how they can be compared scientifically. (NSES Content Standard C) a. Demonstrate the process for the development of a dichotomous key. b. Classify organisms based on a six-kingdom system and a dichotomous key.