

K-2 Online Curriculum Activities

Cross-Curricular Math Extension

Living Things Extension

First and Second Grade Math Extension

by SCA Master teacher, Christie Kittrell, Rivelon Elementary

SCA Theme: Habitats

Focus Question

How can we tell if living and non-living things are symmetrical?

Activity Synopsis

In this lesson we will define what makes an object symmetrical. This extension of the “Living Things” activity will determine whether the things classified are symmetrical or not.

Time Frame

1 day

Objective

The learner will be able to:

- Identify and create figures, symmetric along a line, using various concrete models

Standards

Math – K.G.4, 1.G.1, 2.G.1

Science – 1.1.1, 1.1.3, 2.1.1, 2.1.4

ELA – Reading Informational – K.9, 1.9, 2.9

Materials

- Items from previous activity, for example:
 - Living – insects, plants
 - Non-living – pencil, paper
- Symmetry data sheet to list the results ([link](#))
- paper
- pencils
- scissors
- examples of symmetrical and nonsymmetrical items such as:
 - Symmetrical – butterfly
 - Nonsymmetrical – shoe
- paper cut-outs of shapes (circle, parallelogram)
- paper with capital letters (A, H, O, R, Z, N)
- paper cut-outs of animals or animal toys (optional)

K-2 Online Curriculum Activities

Procedure

1. Provide each student with a paper circle to fold in half. Ask students if the two halves are the same. (Answer: yes)
2. Provide each student with a parallelogram to fold in half and ask the same question. (Answer: no)
3. Discuss with the students the differences between the two shapes and introduce the concept of symmetry.
4. Ask students to think about which capital letters of the alphabet are symmetrical and which are not.
 - i. Symmetrical - A, H, O
 - ii. Nonsymmetrical - R, Z, N
5. Ask students to work in groups to determine if the non-living and living objects are symmetrical. You can even use the same objects that you used in the Living Things Activity.
6. Discuss the results as a class and record class results on a paper chart.

Assessment

Provide students with pictures, cut-outs, or real objects (five total). Ask students to determine whether each item is symmetrical or not. Students receive one point for each item that is classified correctly (five total). Note: It helps students if they draw the line of symmetry.