

Activity 2

Panda-centered Animal Collage

Objective & Overview:

Students will explore animal diversity by cutting and pasting animal pictures and crowning off their work with a giant panda picture.

Teacher Background Information:

Giant pandas--rare, unusual, and much-adored--have become symbols of our appreciation and concern for wildlife. In this exercise, your students will artistically unite various animal images, cutting and pasting them into a collage and embellishing it with a panda picture as centerpiece.

Materials:

- stiff construction paper or cardboard
- paste or glue
- laminate (optional)
- pile of old magazines
- scissors

Directions:

1. Preferably before or after visiting the Zoo, discuss the uniqueness of the giant panda and how one type of animal (species) varies in appearance from another, how they may live in different places, eat different foods, but altogether make up the wonderful diversity of creatures found on earth. Explain that in this activity the goal is to make a collage that illustrates this variety of animals. Explain

that students should try to cut out the animals following their outlines, and glue them onto the construction paper or cardboard so that larger pictures get overlapped around the edges by smaller pictures that follow, so as little background space is visible as possible. A good way to do this is to cut out the animal shapes first and then arrange them and glue them later.

2. Pass out class scissors and magazines to students, periodically having them switch magazines so that each student gets to peruse and cut a variety of publications. Even non-wildlife-related magazines often have many animal photographs or paintings to cut out.
3. When students are almost finished, pass out the giant panda head illustration to each student. He or she can cut this out and paste it atop their otherwise completed collage.
4. (Optional) If you have laminate, brush this over the completed collages to preserve and protect them.



giant panda