

**Project FOCUS
Best Lessons
KINDERGARTEN**

Title of Lesson: Animal Coverings

Theme: Life Science

Unit Number: 6 **Unit Title:** Plants and Animals

Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter codes):

SKCS2

SKCS3

SKCS4

Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):

Habits of Mind

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

Content (key terms and topics covered):

Animal coverings, temperature

Learning Activity (Description in Steps)

Abstract (limit 100 characters): This lesson helps kids to understand the effectiveness of body coverings that keep animals dry.

Details: Once the four bowls of ice water are prepared, set them up at separate stations. At the first station, there will only be the bowl of ice water. This represents living in the cold with no protection from an outer covering. The second station will have one bowl of ice water and a rubber glove. It may make it easier to have several gloves in order to call more than one student up to the table at a time. This station represents an animal that has an extra layer of protection, like a kick, waterproof skin, like a seal. The third station will have an ice water bowl and the plastic bag will with air. This station represents the feathers of a penguin, which trap air for insulation.

The last station is the one with blubber, which represents the thick skin of a whale or seal. The students are asked to guess which bowl of water will be the coldest. I took a show of hands and counted all the people who thought each station would be the coldest. The students are then asked to come up (3-4 at a time) and place their hand in the water, and say, on a scale of one to ten (one is not cold, ten is really cold) how cold the water is. I recorded their ratings of the temperature of the water to determine which one they thought was the coldest. Once finished the students are asked why one bowl of water feels less cold than another. We came back to the carpet, and we compared the estimations to the results of the experiment and talked about the reasons why our estimations were correct or incorrect.

Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):

4 large bowls

Water

Ice

2-3 rubber gloves

"Blubber"

Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):

The "blubber" must be prepared in advance, so it has time to congeal.

Sources/References:

1)

2)

3)