



Thinking like a spider

Introduction

As a scientist we need to have good observation skills and be knowledgeable of the natural world. Its important to ask questions about the environment and be able to think of an answer using data and observations.

Activity

In this activity you will need a buddy to ask each other questions. One individual will have to be knowledgeable of an organism's life (including diet, habitat, appearance, and personality). As one person is acting as that organism, the other person is to be the investigator and ask Yes/No questions to try and discover what organism the other person is. The goal is for the investigator to think of good questions to identify the animal, and for the person playing the animal know how that animal lives. The goal is to be able to guess the other person's organism in under 20 questions, if you go over 20 questions that's perfectly fine! Remember to be as specific as possible when asking and answering questions!

Example questions

Do you fly?

Do you have 4 legs? 2 legs?

Are you a carnivore? Are you an omnivore?

Are you fast? Are you slow?

Can you swim?

Do you like cold environments? Do you like hot environments?

Advanced Questions

Are you a vertebrate? Are you an invertebrate?

Are you a native species? Are you invasive?

Are you endangered?

Important Vocabulary

Carnivore: Animal that feeds on flesh

Herbivore: Animal that feeds on plant matter

Omnivore: Animal that can feed on both plant mater and flesh

Vertebrate: Organism with a backbone

Invertebrate: Organism lacking a backbone

Habitat: the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism

Diet: the kinds of food that a person, animal, or community eats