Raven Tree Press LLC

Children's Bilingual Picture Books

Activity Guide #1

On the Banks of the Amazon / En las orillas del Amazonas

©2005

Subjects
Geography
Language Arts
Performing Arts
Science
Art

Brief Description
In these activities, children work individually or in groups to learn animal habitat and identification. Opportunities for map work/geography lessons to find world regions and habitat. Rainforest exploration. Interview and acting skills could be utilized for class projects. Written extensions on poetry and riddle making for language arts activity.

Objectives
- Participation in group activities increases interpersonal skills
- Improve writing skills and the ability to think creatively
- Correctly identify locations on a map or globe
- Learn to identify insect/animal species and locate habitats

Key Words
Animal identification, Amazon animals, Amazon region, rainforest, rain stick art project, interview skills

Grade Level(s)
K-4

Activities
- Facilitate in shared reading and discussion of *On the Banks of the Amazon / En las orillas del Amazonas.* Read the story aloud. Ask the following open-ended questions:
  1. What did you learn from the story?
  2. Who do you believe should read this story? Why?
  3. Which animal or plant interested you the most? Why?
  4. What are your responsibilities in caring for animals and plants? Explain your answer.
  5. If you could be any animal, what animal would you chose to be? Why would you want to be that animal? How would you act? What would you do? Describe a day in the life of that animal.
- Assign selected words from the story that are grade-level appropriate. Assign two words to pairs of students. Ask children to create flash cards that explain and illustrate what each word means. Use flash cards to create a “rainforest” word wall.

- Assign children partners to complete the chart below. Refer to the book and other resources. (List 8 animals)

Identify as Rainforest animal	Identify an activity of that animal	Describe or draw a picture of animal
(Example: Pink dolphin	Swims slowly	(Picture or description)

- Inform children that they have an opportunity to demonstrate what they have learned about rainforests through a performance or activity.
  1. Talk show host—Interview the animals or the two hunters.
  2. Discuss the four main levels of the rainforest--Floor, Understory, Canopy, and Emergent Layer. Discuss some of the animals that live in each level. Divide into each of the four, rainforest levels. One at a time, children will act out (hang, slither, stand, sit, etc.) the activities of a particular animal and let other students guess the animal being portrayed.
  3. Make an A to Z book, *On the Banks of the* _____. (Use name of creek or river near your home, rather than Amazon. Also, use plants and animals associated with the selected creek or river). Each child will write and illustrate one page of the book, each child using a different letter of the alphabet. Bind the book together to keep.

Activity Guide Source
Nancy Kelly Allen, author
Raven Tree Press, LLC, publisher

Book Information
On the Banks of the Amazon / En las orillas del Amazonas
Written by / Escrito por Nancy Kelly Allen
Illustrated by / Ilustrado por Elizabeth Driessen
Translated by Eida de la Vega
32 pg. / Hardcover / 1st Edition / Trade Cloth
Children's Bilingual (English/Spanish) Full Text Translation
ISBN—0-9720192-7-8 LCCN—2003100142
Pub Date—January 2004
$16.95 Retail Price USD
Reading Level 4.5
Accelerated Reader® #75775

Contact Information
Raven Tree Press books are available through major book wholesalers, independent bookstores, online booksellers and at the publisher's web site www.raventreepress.com.

Reprinted with permission from Raven Tree Press, LLC www.raventreepress.com

Raven Tree Press, LLC
200 S. Washington St., Suite 306
Green Bay, WI 54301
(920) 438-1605
www.raventreepress.com