

Animal Habitat Report & Project

Dear First Grade Students and Parents,

To go along with our unit on frogs and toads, we are also going to be learning about plant and animal habitats. As part of your study of habitats, each student will make a shadow box (diorama) of one habitat. Use a shoebox or some other shoebox-sized container.

I have attached a set of instructions telling how to go about making the shadow box. If you want to have a "ceiling" for the shadow box to hang things, that is all right also. The instructions are for a desert habitat, but these same directions can be used to make shadow boxes for any of the habitats studied.

The students have already chosen their habitats. Please discuss together the appropriate background, colors, plants, vegetation, etc. for the habitat before getting started. I have included a list of some of the animals that live in various habitats around the world. This is just a partial list, and many more animals may be included.

We have books here at school with pictures of animals in their habitats. It would be wonderful, however, if you visited the library and took home some books for more ideas. You may use whatever materials you wish in your shadow box, but please do not use anything that can spoil or smell bad. Be creative!

In addition to the shadow box, please choose an animal from your habitat and complete the animal report sheet. Return the report with your shadow box. Thank you for all your effort! Have fun!

Shadow Boxes & Reports are due Tuesday, May 21.

Name _____

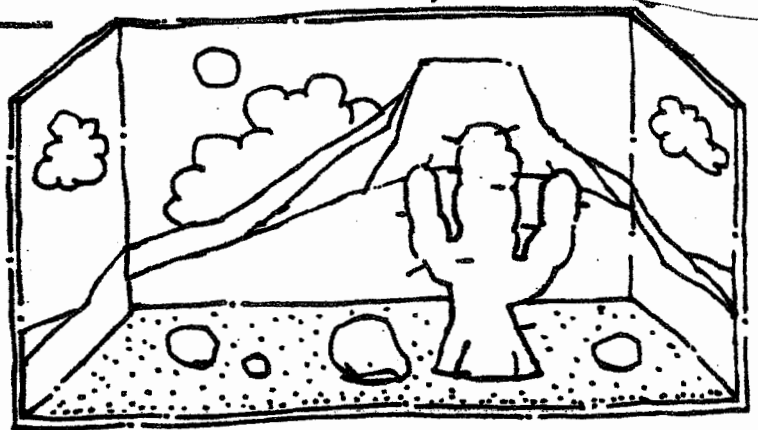
Habitat _____

(Habitat)

Make Desert Dioramas

Materials

- shoe box with one side cut out
- scissors
- paper and tagboard in different colors
- glue
- tempera paint and brushes
- sand
- small rocks, twigs, bits of broom straw
- modeling clay



Steps to Follow

1. Students use paint or paper to cover the back, sides, and bottom of the box. Cover the box bottom with a thin layer of glue and then sprinkle with sand.
2. Make plants to go in the diorama.
Cut the plants from heavy paper or tagboard. To stand the plants, make tabs at the bottoms of the plants and glue them to the bottom of the box. Students might also use twigs for trees or they may model cacti from green clay. Add bits of broom straw for the spines.
3. Add animals made from paper or modeling clay.

These same directions can be used to make dioramas for any of the habitats studied in this unit.

Animal Habitats

The following is a partial list of habitats and animals that live there: (You may find and include many more animals for your shadow box!)

1. OCEANS - all fish, whale, dolphin, porpoise, seagull, pelican, penguin, sea lion, seal, sea turtle, starfish, crab, manatee, otter, sea horse, jellyfish, octopus, sea urchin, sponge, coral, eel, shark
2. PONDS - frog, duck, crayfish, dragonfly, water strider, pond snail, beetle, beaver, newt, salamander, trout, tadpole, perch, garter snake, catfish, pond turtle, mosquito, mallard, heron
3. RAIN FOREST - chameleon, iguana, lemur, marmoset, macaw, monkey, orangutan, sloth, umbrella bird, toucan, king vulture, harpy eagle, spectacled owl, jaguar, giant armadillo, ocelot, opossum, anteater, coral snake, anaconda, tree boa, tarantula
4. DESERT - coyote, wild horse, jackrabbit, badger, kit fox, mule deer, wild horse, camel, mouse, emu, toad, rattlesnake, lizard, black widow spider, woodpecker, tortoise, vulture, falcon
5. GRASSLANDS (SAVANNA) - lion, zebra, cheetah, aardvark, impala, giraffe, hippopotamus, gazelle, wildebeest, jackal, African elephant, buffalo, rhinoceros, leopard, ostrich, python
6. ARCTIC TUNDRA (POLAR) - snowshoe hare, gray wolf, arctic fox, ermine, reindeer or caribou, big brown or grizzly bear, killer whale, polar bear, walrus, bearded seal, northern fur seal, snowy owl, puffin, snow goose, arctic tern
7. HIGH MOUNTAINS - snow leopard, black bear, wild yak, marmot, Siberian ibex, sheep, whistling thrush, pit viper, bar-headed goose, mountain goat, earwig, centipede
8. EVERGLADES SWAMP - snowy egret, blue heron, mink, white tailed deer, raccoon, muskrat, river otter, green tree-frog, American alligator, American crocodile, water moccasin, short tailed hawk, mosquitoes, dragonfly

My Animal Report

By _____

Draw a picture of your animal in its habitat on the separate Sheet of paper.

1. The animal I chose is the

_____ because

_____.

2. The animal moves by

_____.

3. This animal's habitat is

_____.

4. The color of this animal is

_____.

5. This animal eats

_____.

6. It gets its food by

7. This animal likes to

8. This animal's baby is called

9. An interesting fact about this animal is

Please list any web sites that you referenced for any information or photographs.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Here is a picture of my animal in it's natural habitat.

Animal's name: _____

It's habitat is _____.