



10 Minute Learning Activity

Database: SIRS Discoverer

Topic/Subject Area: Science

Grade Level: Kindergarten

Essential Question: In what ways do cartoon or animated plants and animals differ from real plants and animals?

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Academic Content Standards:

Standard: Life Science standard

Benchmark: A. Discover that there are living things, non-living things and pretend things, and describe the basic needs of living things (organisms).

Grade Level Indicator: Discover that stories (e.g., cartoons, movies, comics) sometimes give plants and animals characteristics they really do not have (e.g., talking flowers).

Search Steps:

1. Type the URL address www.infohio.org.
2. Select *Resources for Grades K-5*.
3. If accessing from home, enter username and password
4. Click on *SIRS Discoverer*.
5. Click on *SIRS Discoverer* again.
6. Click on *Pictures*. (It is on the right side of the home page.)
7. In the picture search box type *Snoopy* and click *Search*.
8. Click on "*Peanuts*" *Characters: Snoopy and Woodstock*.
9. For the next search go back to the search box and type *dog* and click *Search*.
10. Click on *Dog: Barney Bush*.
11. For the next picture, go back to the search box and type *cartoon* and click *Search*.
12. Click on *Cartoon: Leaf Speak*.
13. For the next picture, go back to the search box and type *leaves* and click *Search*.
14. Click on *Fall Leaves*.
15. For the next picture, go back to the search box and type *cartoon* and click *Search*.
16. Click on *Cartoon: Kitty Vision*.
17. For the final picture, go back to the search box and type *kitten* and click *Search*.
18. Click on *Kitten*.

Additional Comments on Search Process:

1. *SIRS Discoverer* is broken down into 15 subtopics and four reference topics.
2. It has helpful database features including pictures, country facts and maps.
3. The Boolean operators AND, OR, and NOT are used to limit and expand searches.
4. Boolean operators are used in the following order (NOT, AND, OR) unless parenthesis are used to specify another order.
5. The truncation symbol (*) is used to include alternate word endings.
6. "Quotation marks" can be used to search for multiple words next to one other.
7. There are two ways of sorting information:
 - a. Relevance – Articles containing the most key words appear first.
 - b. Date – Articles dated most recently appear first.