



Minibeasts and Leaves

The Guess Who Game

Age: 7-14

Topic: Biology

Time: 1 hour



What should learners already know?

- We can use ID guides to identify different animals and plants we see in our environment.

What equipment will I need?

- Relevant ID Guide (either one per child or one per pair).
- Sheets of paper with lists of 5 species mentioned on the ID guide (either one per child or one per pair). At least 2 sheets with species in different orders are needed.

How will learners explore this?

1. Get the class to pair up, and sit back to back with their partner. Give each child an ID guide.
2. Then, pass out the sheets with the lists of species on them; make sure that partners have different sheets!
3. If there are limited ID guides, this can be done in groups of four, with pairs sitting back to back. Each pair should be given an ID guide and a list.
4. Children must try to use 5 or fewer yes-or-no questions to identify the species on their partner's sheet based on appearance. Their partner must answer only yes or no.
5. Children take it in turns to ask and answer questions. When both children have successfully identified five species, shout 'BINGO!'
6. Practitioners move from group to group as the activity is happening, helping children and reinforcing what aspects of species appearance might be best to focus on.

How can we show the learning?

- Challenge children by asking them to explain what about the task they found easy or difficult.
- What was the most useful anatomical feature to focus on? Did children find that the best way to tell species apart was appearance of the body or head? Markings or colours?
- Was this the same for all groups?
- What were the most difficult species to tell apart?
- Which species were the easiest to guess?



Repeat this game with all the ID guides you have for surveying! This is a great way to introduce children to the principles of identification.



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