

Kerpoof Lesson Plan

Lifecycle of a Penguin

Topics: lifecycles, nature, penguins, biology, research, public speaking
Grade level: 3-5

Student assignment:

Students will research information about penguins and their lifestyles using video, books and Web sites. They will report their findings orally to the class so that every student can learn about each aspect of penguins. As a final project students will create a Kerpoof picture depicting what they have learned about penguins.

Materials and Resources:

- Books on penguins
- A DVD copy of *March of the Penguins*
- Access to Web sites about penguins (see attached list)

Activity:

1. Do a KWL activity to determine what the students already know about penguins and what they are interested in learning. Add in a "G" after the KW and work with students to decide where they can "go" to find the information they are interested in learning.
2. Have each student (or pair or group of students) choose 2-3 things that they want to learn about penguins based on the KWL you've done as a class.
3. Watch parts of *March of the Penguins*, stopping the DVD to allow students to take notes on parts of the movie where they could "learn" one of their items.
4. Have students read books and look at Web sites to answer some of their questions about penguins.
5. When students have found answers to their questions, have them report back to the rest of the class. Fill in the "L" section of the KWGL chart.
6. Take the chart with you to the computer lab. Have students use the Kerpoof Antarctic scene to create a picture that illustrates what they have learned about penguins.

Web sites about Penguins

SeaWorld Animal Bytes

<http://www.seaworld.org/animal-info/animal-bytes/animalia/eumetazoa/coelomates/deuterostomes/chordata/craniata/aves/sphenisciformes/penguins.htm>

Live Science Penguin page

<http://www.livescience.com/penguins/>

National Geographic Kids Creature Feature

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/Animals/CreatureFeature/Emperor-penguin>

Brain Pop Penguin page

<http://www.brainpop.com/science/diversityoflife/penguins/>

New Zealand Penguin page

<http://www.penguin.net.nz/faq/faq.html>

Defenders of Wildlife Fact Sheet

http://www.defenders.org/wildlife_and_habitat/wildlife/penguin.php

Antarctic Connection Penguin page

<http://www.antarcticconnection.com/antarctic/wildlife/penguins/index.shtml>