Lesson Plan

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The Unique Lifecycles of Living Organisms

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Science
Grades 3–5

Introduction

All living organisms have unique and diverse lifecycles though share some commonalities. In this lesson, students will study the lifecycle of both the tadpole and a seed. In pairs, they will choose one organism and design a poster showing the organism's unique lifecycle.

Learning Objectives

3-LS1-1

- Develop models to describe that organisms have unique and diverse lifecycles but all have in common birth, growth, reproduction, and death.

Materials Needed

- *Tadpole's Promise* by Jeanne Willis and *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle
- Paper and crayons

Procedure

1. The teacher will introduce the lesson by explaining that all organisms have unique and diverse lifecycles, yet they all share a birth, growth phase, reproduction, and death. "Today you and your partner will read two different lifecycle books. You will then create a poster showing the lifecycle of one of the selected organisms or one of your own!
2. Partner the students into pairs. Tell the pairs they can either read both texts together, or each of them read one book and summarize their reading.
3. After students have read each book, they should decide if they are going to draw the lifecycle of a tadpole or a seed (if choosing is a challenge, students have the option of drawing both lifecycles or each choosing one).
4. After posters are complete, students can share their work using either Flipgrid or a gallery walk.

Evaluation

Students' lifecycle drawings should consist of at least four phases that are clearly labeled. They should be neat and include colorful drawings. Their teamwork will also go into consideration for their grade.