



Picturing Gorillas

Virtual Classroom Extension

Objectives

These activities are designed to start your at-home students in recognizing themselves as scientists and in thinking critically about problem-solving. The goal is to teach concepts through discovery and to encourage using scientific thought processes. Feel free to adapt the lessons provided to better suit your students' abilities. Take these ideas, make them your own, and your at-home students will have a greater chance of success.

Materials

Gorilla picture prompts provided at the end of this lesson plan, paper, writing utensils, timer.

Background Information

Gorillas are powerful yet shy and intelligent. Eastern gorillas (Grauer's and mountain gorillas) are severely affected by human activity. They are hunted and their habitat is being lost to mining and agriculture. Only 1,000 mountain gorillas remain in two populations in Rwanda, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Fewer than 3,500 Grauer's gorillas remain in DRC.

Dr. Dian Fossey established Karisoke™ Research Center in 1967, launching one of the longest ongoing research and monitoring programs for any species in the world. The staff of the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International (DFGFI) are on the ground every day in Rwanda and Congo protecting gorillas against threats from poaching, loss of habitat and disease.

DFGFI's Memoirs Program, in partnership with Cleveland Metroparks Zoo (Case Western Reserve University) and the University of Rwanda, supports and conducts university student training at Karisoke™ Research Center to develop the next generation of scientists. Zoo staff have trained Rwandan biology students in conservation science through this program since 2014.

DFGFI is protecting 150 gorillas in the Nkuba-Biruwe Conservation Area using monitoring and protection programs modeled after Karisoke™ Research Center's proven programs. The Zoo is working with DFGFI and local communities to double the number of Grauer's gorillas protected in this region.

Procedure

1. This game can be played by the entire family. It will work best with at least four people.
2. Print the "Gorilla Picture Prompts" attached to this lesson plan and cut out the individual cards. If you do not have access to a printer, you can write the information on paper or index cards.
3. Cards with stars in the corner may be more difficult for younger students to draw or guess.
4. Before playing, shuffle the cards. Set them in a pile face down on the table.
5. The first team will choose one person to draw a card. They will not show their card to anyone else. In the case where one player is unable to read the card or does not understand a word, a player from the other team can help them.
6. Set the timer for one minute.

7. The player who drew the card has one minute to draw a picture of the large, bolded word at the top of the card.
8. As they are drawing their picture, their teammates should try to guess what they are drawing.
9. If their team correctly guesses what the picture is before the timer finishes, that team gains one point.
10. If the timer runs out before the team correctly guesses, the opposing team (with the exception of the person who helped read the card, if this happened) has one chance to guess the word. If they correctly guess it, they receive one point.
11. If no team correctly guesses the word, no points are given.
12. The player that drew the card will then read the gorilla trivia question to their team. The trivia questions and answers are related to the word that was drawn. If the team correctly answers it, they get an additional one point.
13. The game proceeds with the next team taking a card and drawing the word.
14. Once all cards have been used, the game is over. The team with the highest number of points wins.

Ohio's Learning Standards

Science Content Standards
Grade 4 Life Science Standards: Earth's Living History 4.LS.1: Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.



Gorilla Picture Prompts

<p style="text-align: center;">Africa </p> <p style="text-align: center;">Trivia Question: Name one country where mountain gorillas are naturally found.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Answer: Rwanda, Uganda, and Democratic Republic of Congo</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cell Phone </p> <p style="text-align: center;">Trivia Question: Why does recycling your cell phone help gorillas?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Answer: Recycling your cell phone reduces the demand for a mineral (coltan) that is mined in gorilla habitat.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Gorilla Nose </p> <p style="text-align: center;">Trivia Question: How are gorilla noses like human fingerprints?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Answer: Gorilla nose prints are unique to each gorilla.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Leaves</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Trivia Question: Gorillas eat mostly plants. What are animals that eat plants called?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Answer: Herbivores</p>

Nest

Trivia Question:

What do gorillas make their nests out of?

Answer:

Leaves and branches

Troop of Gorillas

Trivia Question:

A gorilla group is called a troop. What is the dominant male in the troop called?

Answer:

Silverback

Grooming

Trivia Question:

What is one reason gorillas groom each other?

Answer:

Grooming helps gorillas maintain social bonds.

Zoo

Trivia Question:

What organization does Cleveland Metroparks Zoo work with to help protect gorillas?

Answer:

The Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International

Rope

Trivia Question:

Sometimes people illegally trap gorillas using snares. What is the term for people who hunt animals illegally?

Answer:

Poachers

Scientist

Trivia Question:

What is the term for a scientist that studies apes and other primates?

Answer:

Primatologist

Bank

Trivia Question:

What is one way you can help gorillas?

Answer:

Donate money

School

Trivia Question:

Cleveland Metroparks Zoo partners with Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International to help train students in what subject?

Answer:

Conservation science

Pickaxe

Trivia Question:

What industry related to cell phones threatens gorilla habitat?

Answer:

Mining for the mineral coltan

Talking

Trivia Question:

What is one way you can help gorillas?

Answer:

Share what I know, and encourage others to act.

Mountain

Trivia Question:

What two types of gorillas do Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International work to protect?

Answer:

Mountain and Grauer's gorillas

DNA



Trivia Question:

What percent of DNA do humans and gorillas share?

Answer:

98%

Bulldozer

Trivia Question:

What is one threat gorilla's face in the wild?

Answer:

Habitat destruction

Baby

Trivia Question:

How many babies do gorillas usually give birth to at a time?

Answer:

One baby

Hand

Trivia Question:

Like other primates, gorillas have what on their hands that make them different from other types of animals?

Answer:

Thumb

Teeth

Trivia Question:

Gorillas have the same number of teeth as humans. How many teeth is this in an adult?

Answer:

32

Eating

Trivia Question:

What percentage of the day do gorillas spend eating?

Answer:

30%

Tree

Trivia Question:

In what type of habitat do gorillas live?

Answer:

Tropical forests