Animals in the News



Objective

Students will identify various animals' biographical information.

Materials

- library and/or Internet access
- colored push pins
- large world map or copy of map on page 2
- cork board or classroom bulletin board

Action

- Explain that each student (or student group) will review an animal news article from a designated Web site and research further information about the featured animal. They will then present their research and review to the class during a mock Global News Conference.
- Instruct each student or student group to visit http://news.nationalgeograpic.com/news/animals.html and select an article that they find interesting. Each will have a different article to review and research.
- 3. Instruct students to research the following information from their news article.

Geographic area the article pertains to Animal (subject of the article) Summary of article Article review Animal genus and species (scientific name) Animal range and habitat Animal diet Five fun facts describing the animal's behaviors, adaptations, or population status.

- 4. Mock Global News Conference—Instruct students to move their desks/tables into a circle or U-shaped configuration. Next, the students should create a name plate for themselves stating their name and the animal subject of the article. Instruct students to place their name plates facing the interior of the circle or U-shape. Lastly, hang or place a large world map on the classroom bulletin board or a separate cork board.
- 5. Instruct each student to begin their 3 to 5 minute presentation by identifying the geographic area their article pertains to. Have them place a colored push pin into the corresponding area on the World Map Funsheet. If a specific area is not mentioned the student may identify the geographic range of the animal. Next, students will present their research.

