

Aaalligator!

RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

INTERDISCIPLINARY THEMES: ART, SCIENCE, SEL, SOCIAL STUDIES

SCIENCE

ALLIGATOR RESEARCH: WHAT DO THEY EAT?

The seemingly basic question “What do alligators eat?” provides a good opportunity to review media literacy guidelines. Give your students guidelines about finding reputable sources and then ask them to answer the question. Have students compare both their sources and their answers and come up with a class answer by consensus.

SCIENCE

COMPOSTING LEFTOVERS

If you don't have an alligator to eat all your leftovers, composting is an option! Discuss composting, including what kinds of leftovers can and cannot be used. Make a model compost bin and a model garbage bin from two boxes. Have students cut out pictures of various foods and deposit them into the correct bins. Assign analysts to determine whether anything was placed in the wrong bin.



ART, SOCIAL STUDIES

CLASS QUILT

Although the townspeople used a quilt to hide the alligator, it was actually when they saw him for who he was that they accepted him. Give each student a piece of paper and drawing materials and let them create a personal quilt square that represents themselves or something important to them. “Stitch” your quilt together on a wall with tape and display your class quilt to honor everyone in your class.



SOCIAL STUDIES

CLASSROOM PROCLAMATION

With input and agreement from students, make a proclamation in your classroom. Consider these ideas or choose something else: mark a special day, name an official classroom bird, or name your classroom after a literary figure. Be sure to start your proclamation with “Now, therefore...”



SEL

ANIMAL FEELINGS

Do alligators really get lonely? Lead a class discussion about whether animals have emotions similar to human beings. Then, visit <https://www.amcny.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/How-Animals-Feel-FINAL.pdf> to access resources to help children understand animals' feelings and, specifically, dog and cat behavior.

Understanding Dog Behavior

Happy



Nervous



Upset



Understanding Cat Behavior

Happy



Nervous



Upset

