

Budding Biologist



Am I an Insect?

Lesson Plan - Language



Language Arts

If I were an insect

Objective: students think creatively to create a fictional book about insects

Procedure: 1. The teacher reads *Am I an Insect?* and asks the students what they would do if they were insects instead of children. 2. The teacher explains that they are going to write a story about an insect and that it will be *fictional*, or made up. The teacher shows examples of stories that are made up. 3. Students can vote for an insect to use (ladybug, beetle, ant, or butterfly, for example) and the teacher informs them we are going to write everyone's idea on the board and make a class book. 2. The teacher goes around the class asking each child what he/she would do as an insect, and writes each answer on the board next to the child's name. 3. Each child is given a piece of paper and depending on his/her ability can copy their idea from the board onto the page, or the teacher can assist them with the writing. Above the writing, children are asked to draw a picture of their idea. 4. The teacher collects all the drawings and puts them in a binder to make a class book. The teacher explains that now they are authors because they have helped to write a book, and the book will be in the class library for them to look at during reading time.

Materials:

Am I an Insect? book

White board or chalkboard

Paper (one per child), punched with a three-hole punch

Crayons, colored pencils or markers

3-ring binder

Assessment: Teachers evaluate the students' writing ability according to the level of the classroom: are the letters legible, in more or less a straight line, and in the correct order? Does the student attempt to use capitalization and punctuation?

Extension: students can write their own story about spending an entire day as an insect.

Vocabulary:

Fiction: a story that is made up using one's imagination.