

Living Latin

KLAs:
Science / Creative Arts / Languages

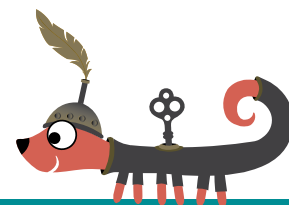
LESSON TOPIC:
Biological classification, Etymology

YEAR LEVEL: K-10

DURATION OF ACTIVITY:
45-50 minutes

Why do we classify things?

There are millions of plants and animals on our planet, and scientists organise living things into different groups based on physical similarities to make sense of their function and evolution. These groups are given standardised names, making it easy for scientists all over the world to identify and properly classify plants and animals no matter what language they speak or where in the world they are! In this activity we look at what physical features may be used to categorise animals, and learn some Latin words often used by scientists in naming them. Make your own imaginary animal, name it according to Linnaeus' Latin binomial system, and give it character, habitat and a story!



LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will:

- Develop their knowledge and understanding of why and how we ascribe names to living organisms, the evolutionary relationships between different living things, and the systems used to classify them
- Understand the scientific importance of a standardised system for categorising living things into hierarchical groups
- Gain experience in classifying animals, including the use of Latin binomial nomenclature
- Develop an understanding of physical adaptations that help animals survive in their environment
- Learn some Latin words commonly used to scientifically describe living things, and apply this knowledge to the naming of their own creations

EXPLORATORY AND PLAY-BASED COMPONENTS

Students will use a range of craft and recycled materials to create their own imaginary animal. Taking into account ways animals adapt to their environment, they will then use their new knowledge surrounding methods of classification and binomial nomenclature to give their creation a scientific name, and a natural history story to go with it!

SYLLABUS OUTCOMES

ES1 – S3: SCIENCE

- Knowledge and understanding – Living World: Ste-8NE, ST1-10LW, ST1-11LW, ST2-10LW, ST3-10LW
- Skills – Working Scientifically: Ste-4WS, ST1-4WS

CREATIVE ARTS

- Visual Arts – Making: VAES1.1, VAES1.2, VAS1.1, VAS2.1, VAS2.2
- Visual Arts – Appreciating: VAES1.4

LANGUAGES

- Latin – Using Language: 1.UL.1, 1.UL.2, 1.UL.3, 2.UL.3

S4 – S5: SCIENCE

- Knowledge and understanding – Living World: SC4-14LW, SC4-15LW, SC5-14LW, SC5-15LW
- Skills – Working Scientifically: SC4-9WS, SC5-9WS

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