Lesson Plan

English as a Second Language
Grades 4 - 8
Categorizing to Build Vocabulary

Learning Objective and Standards

**Learning Objective:** Students will categorize animals based on their habitat.

**Goal 1, Standard 3** (as defined by TESOL – Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages)
To use English to communicate in social settings: Students will use learning strategies to extend their communicative competence

**Progress Indicators**

- use written sources to discover or check information
- keep individual notes for language learning
- test appropriate use of new vocabulary, phrases, and structures
- ask someone the meaning of a word
- understand verbal directions by comparing them with nonverbal cues (e.g., folding paper into eighths, lining up)
- imitate a classmate's response to a teacher's question or directions
- associate realia or diagrams with written labels to learn vocabulary or construct meaning
- practice recently learned language by teaching a peer
Organizational Framework

**Classroom:** Students arranged in table groups
**English Proficiency Level:** Variety of levels
**Language of Instruction:** English

Materials

Chart paper, Magazines, Pens, Markers, glue, tape

Lesson Design

**Students will work in small groups of 2-4.**
Teacher assigns each group a habitat.
Students brainstorm animals living in that habitat.
Students draw a poster representing the habitat and the animals living there.

Teacher may provide pre-printed labels with animal names to scaffold the learning.

All groups share their posters with the whole group.

Teacher leads whole class in practicing presentation skills.

Resources

- TESOL website of standards:

- Ideas for habitat lessons and printer friendly worksheets: