

Bear Essentials

Rangers in the Classroom—Pre-visit Lesson Plan



Grade Level: 4th

Setting: Classroom

Duration: 45 min - 1 hour

Standards Addressed:

- ° Science—Life Sciences:
2, 3
- ° Language Arts– Reading:
1.1, 1.3
- ° Language Arts– Writing
Strategies:
1.1
- ° Language Arts– Writing
Applications:
2.1
- ° Language Arts– Written
and Oral:
1.1

Introduction:

Welcome to Rangers in the Classroom! We are looking forward to visiting your class for our Bear Essentials program. To help prepare your class for the ranger visit, we have created a pre-visit activity to introduce your students to some of the concepts we will cover in our program. If you are interested in additional preparation, the program outline includes a vocabulary list and can easily be found on the website at: <http://www.nps.gov/seki/forteachers/index.htm>. By exploring a few concepts and vocabulary words with your students prior to our visit, you will help us hit the ground running. Have fun and we'll see you soon!

Materials:

- ° Acrostic poem worksheet
- ° Pencil

Instructions:

1. Pass out worksheets.
2. Read and review what an acrostic poem is with the class.
3. Read the example poem.
4. On the board, write down some ideas that students have about black bears.
5. Students will then create their own acrostic poem using the information they already know about black bears.
6. Optional: On a separate sheet of paper, students can draw a picture that goes along with their poem. Also, students can present their poems to the class.

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Acrostic poems are simple poems in which the first letter of each line forms a word or phrase (vertically). An acrostic poem can describe the subject or even tell a brief story about it.

Directions: Using the information that you already know, you are going to write an acrostic poem about **black bears**! See the example poem below.



Black bears are omnivores.

Licking up ants on a log is a favorite.

At night, black bears curl up in their dens.

Cubs snuggle close to their mama to stay warm.

Keeping their cubs safe is a mama bear's job.

Berries are another yummy treat for black bears.

Eating grass in a meadow is a good way for a bear to spend the day.

After black bears hibernate all winter long, they are

Refreshed and ready for a new adventure!

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