



Pre-Visit Activity: Island Vocabulary

Pre-visit activities prepare students for a more meaningful and rewarding visit to Theodore Roosevelt Island. Please complete as many as your schedule allows before bringing your students on their field trip.

Objectives

Define, discuss, and use vocabulary words pertinent to Theodore Roosevelt Island.

Method:

Students participate in a variety of cooperative activities designed to introduce, review, and utilize important vocabulary words necessary for a successful trip to Roosevelt Island.

Materials

- Vocabulary handout
- Cardstock
- Drawing/art supplies

Procedures

1. Have students break into cooperative groups of four or five.
2. Give each group a piece of cardstock with a vocabulary word written on it. Use the following words:
Conservation, Naturalist, Natural Resources, Producers, Decomposers, Consumers, Food Chain, Community, Diverse, Interrelationships, Memorial
3. Each group will be given a variety of resources -- i.e. encyclopedias, science books, nature magazines, Web sites, books, etc. -- to write definitions and examples of their vocabulary words.
4. Each group will elect a reporter to report their findings to the class at the end of the given time. The reporter will explain the definitions while a recorder writes the information on a class chart on the board or chart paper.

5. Following this class discussion, groups will stay together for a class matching game. Tape the word/definition cards to the blackboard, writing side down. Students in each group have a chance to try to match a word with its definition by picking two cards and turning them over to see if they have made a match.
7. After the game is complete, give each student a copy of the vocabulary handout to fill in with what they have learned about the vocabulary words.

Extension

Create cards for new words learned during their visit to the island and play the memory game again.

Evaluation

Try to use as many of the words as you can when you write in your naturalist journal on our trip to Roosevelt Island.

Island Vocabulary Answer Key

Conservation	Working to preserve and maintain nature
Naturalist	Person with a love of nature
Natural resources	Something found in nature that is useful to people
Food chain	The path energy and materials take in a community
Producers	A living thing that can use sunlight to make food
Decomposers	Put materials from dead organisms back into the soil, air, or water
Consumers	A living thing that depends on producers for food
Diverse	Having many different qualities
Community	All the populations in one ecosystem
Interrelationships	Mutual or existing relationships
Memorial	Something that serves to keep in remembrance

Island Vocabulary

Conservation	
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Natural Resources	
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Decomposers	
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Diverse	
Interrelationships	
Memorial	

