

Black Bear Alphabet Tree



Grade Level: Preschool – K

Standards:

Minnesota Standards in Science Codes

1.4.2.1.1, 1.4.2.1.2- Natural systems have many components that interact to maintain the living system

Minnesota Early Childhood Standards

Emergent Reading, Emergent Writing, Scientific Thinking, and Problem Solving

Link Resources:

ABCs of Black Bears – book versions:

http://www.bear.org/website/images/stories/education-outreach/resources/ABCs_100dpi.pdf (low res)

http://www.bear.org/website/images/stories/education-outreach/resources/ABCs_300dpi.pdf

Black Bear Basics

http://www.bear.org/website/images/stories/education-outreach/resources/Black_Bear_Basics.pdf

www.bear.org

Goal:

The students will be exposed to vocabulary used in the study of the American black bear, which can be used to support letter and word recognition skills.

Curriculum Focus:

Science, Written Language, Literacy

Lesson:

Materials Needed: *(Some materials are included in Black Bear Boxes)*

- Large tree (either store bought or drawn on butcher paper)
- Photos to illustrate content vocabulary
- Cherry shapes with alphabet (cut out cherry shapes and label each with letters of the alphabet)
- Content word cards/pictures (create word cards using photos available in resources above)
- The ABCs of Black Bears (PowerPoint is included in Black Bear Box, link to book version above)

Background Information and Implementation:

Cherries are a favorite food of black bears. They must stretch to pull the branches down so they are able to reach the ripe cherries. Add a 'new' letter, and corresponding content word(s) (see list attached) to the display tree each week. Discuss these words throughout the week, giving students an opportunity to practice reading, writing, and understanding the words and letters in context.

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The ABCs of Black Bears

Preschool and Kindergarten Content Words

Aa	Ant, Acorn	Nn	Nose, Nervous
Bb	Berry, Biologist	Oo	Observation, Omnivore
Cc	Claws, Climbing	Pp	Play
Dd	Den	Qq	Quiet
Ee	Ears, Eyes	Rr	Radio-collar, Researcher
Ff	Forage, Fur	Ss	Sign, Scat
Gg	Grooming	Tt	Tree, Territory
Hh	Hibernation, Hazelnuts	Uu	Understanding, <i>Ursus americanus</i>
Ii	Insect	Vv	Vegetation
Jj	January	Ww	Winter, Weight
Kk	Knowledge	Xx	marks GPS locations of a bear
Ll	Language	Yy	Yearling
Mm	Marking, Mating	Zz	Zoology, Zoo