



Diversity of Life:

Teacher's Guide



IN A NUTSHELL

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SUBJECTS

Language Arts
Mathematics
Science
Social Studies

This teacher's guide contains twelve activities and supporting materials to help classroom instructors teach the basics of animal taxonomy and classification in the context of marine life. The lessons begin with an overview of the Linnaean system of classification, and go on to provide several opportunities for students to practice classification and to become familiar with the phyla and classes.

Subsequent lessons become more detailed in describing and identifying animal characteristics and adaptation, as well as the interactions of animals with their habitats. The final chapters address biodiversity and possible consequences of habitat loss. Each activity lists the objective, materials needed, background information, answers to questions posed to students, and suggestions for extensions or adaptations. The text is illustrated with photographs and drawings and includes a vocabulary list and bibliography.

Grade Level
7-12

Length
26 pages

Date Published
1995

THE BOTTOM
L I N E

"The unit is easy to use and provides most of the key information educators need to make it user-friendly."

What the REVIEWERS Said!	Key Characteristics	Strengths Noted	Other Considerations
	Fairness and Accuracy	Debate gives students opportunity to explore both sides of an issue.	Background information on biodiversity could be limiting. Does not list affiliation or qualifications of advisory board.
	Depth	Provides solid basis for understanding Linnaean system.	Discusses fauna only. Fails to tie in economics or political considerations.
	Emphasis on Skills Building	Develops classification, research, and some creative thinking skills.	
	Action Orientation	Not Applicable.	
	Instructional Soundness	Lessons are interdisciplinary and address different learning styles. States goals and objectives. Lessons build on previous learnings.	Little opportunity for students to initiate inquiry. Material not always made relevant to students.
	Usability	Instructions are clear and logically organized. Material should be long-lived.	Does not list time requirements, grade level, or skills required for each lesson.

"Best serves as a resource to support instruction in biological classification and not as a stand-alone product."

"Material is informative, creative, and should inspire interest in students."