

Feed the Mountain Lion

6th grade post-Sly Park Experience Activity

Content Standards:

- NGSS
5-PS3-1 Energy
Use models to describe that energy in animals' food (used by the body for repair, growth, motion, and to maintain body warmth) was once energy from the sun.

Objectives:

- SWBAT describe the flow of energy from the sun to a mountain lion
- SWBAT define and give an example of a producer, primary, secondary and top consumer

Background Info for Teachers: N/A

Materials: (per student group (2-4 students))

- One copy of game board (+ one for projection or a transparency copy)
- One paperclip
- One pencil

Procedures:

- Teacher writes question on board and poses to class to think, pair, share responses to “How can a mountain lion eat sunshine?” [Accept all answers, students will “discover or affirm” the correct answer during the lesson]
- Teacher tells students that they will play a game to get the answer. On projected game board, teacher shows the pyramid at the bottom and has students volunteer to read the definitions along the side of the pyramid.
- Teacher goes through the directions with the students for the game and models a few spins.
- Teacher divides class into groups for playing the game.
- While in groups, students try to answer the initial question “How can a mountain lion eat sunshine?” using vocabulary from the game board.
- As a whole class, answers are shared [The energy in the food a mountain lion eats comes from the energy of the sun. The producers (plants) capture the energy and turn it into food for themselves through photosynthesis. The plants serve as food for consumers.]
- EXTENSION ACTIVITY-LANGUAGE ARTS-Have students write a journal entry about their game experience.

Assessment:

- Informal assessment through teacher observation as the students play the game



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How to play:

Be the 1st to feed your Mountain Lion!

- Each team fills one side of the chart (below).
- Taking turns, use the spinner to fill trophic levels from the sun up to the mountain lion.
- You must completely fill the lower trophic levels before advancing to the next trophic level.

