

Back To The Past

After Your Visit - Activity 1

Living off the Land

Activity Procedure

1. Ask students to recall the "mental notes" they took for creating an invention for desert survival during their visit to Sabino Canyon. Ask them to describe some of the objects that they thought could be useful to help humans—either for survival or artistic expression. Make a list on the board of potentially useful natural objects named by students.
2. Next explain that they should think of a particular item of which they took note. They should either draw the object and a creative use with it or write about this invention, describing the natural object's use. Encourage creativity as well as accuracy about the natural object selected by each student.
3. Call on volunteers or select students to present their creations to the class. Have the class either guess what the natural object is based on its use alone or simply have the presenter explain his or her chosen natural object and how it can be used. Ask a volunteer to keep a tally of what natural objects were chosen and how many different ways each one was used.
4. Wrap up the activity by asking students if they think they could survive in Sabino Canyon. Write the words FOOD, WATER, and SHELTER on the board in three separate columns. Have students list things they saw while on their field trip that they could use which fit into each of these categories. Allow students to include things on the list which they didn't actually see but are aware that they occur there. How big is their list? After students have broken down survival tasks into categories and made such a list does survival in the desert seem easier? Ask your students how many students would like the opportunity to try "living off the land" themselves?

Objectives

Students will

- * list natural objects seen during their field trip which could be used for survival.
- * create and draw an invention for desert survival from natural objects.