

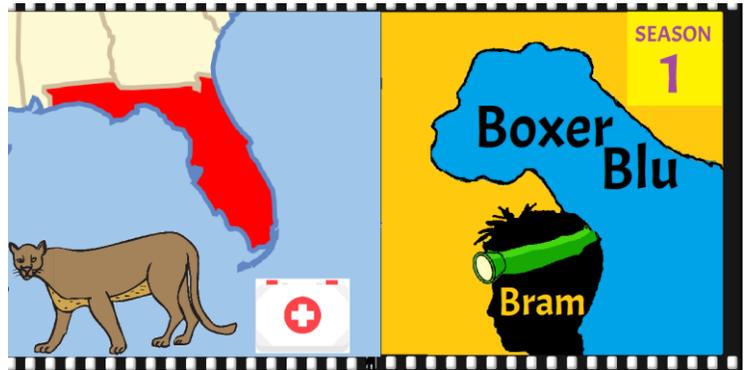
Little News Ears

Lesson Plan Suggestions

BoxerBlu & Bram – News for 4 Year-Olds

Season 1 – Episode 26 – August 30, 2019

Florida, panthers, child jockeys, Indonesia, Hurricane Dorian



Item #1 – Title: ‘For Indonesia’s Child Jockeys, Time to Retire at 10, After 5 Years of Racing’

Author: Adam Dean

Source: The New York Times

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/24/world/asia/indonesia-sumbawa-child-jockeys-horse-racing.html>

Activity – Zoology: [Giddy Up, Horsey](#)

1. [Circle time ideas.](#)
2. Watch the Video: ‘[I Want to Be a Paramedic](#)’
3. Read the book *Frederick the Paramedic* by Chris Blongiewicz
4. If available, contact a local paramedic to visit the school.

Item #2 – Title: ‘Florida Authorities Investigate a Disorder Affecting Panthers’ Ability to Walk’

Authors: Meilan Solly

Source: Smithsonianmag.com

Link: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/florida-authorities-investigate-disorder-affecting-panthers-ability-walk-180972981/>

Activity – STEAM – Science - Zoology – [Creating an Ethogram](#)

Preparation:

1. Decide on an insect or small animal that the administration will allow you to keep in your classroom.
Teach your students the word, ‘Ethogram,’ a way that zookeepers study animals to learn more about them.
2. Acquire a stopwatch, a terrarium, an animal or insect, and a few creative ideas for shelters, food sources, water sources, diversions (‘toys’) and décor for the terrarium.
3. Create an ethogram that looks something like this:

Elapsed Time	Walking	Resting	Eating / Drinking	Having Fun	Going to the bathroom
20 seconds					
40 seconds					
60 seconds					
1 min, 20 seconds					
1 min, 40 seconds					
2 minutes					

1. Introduce the students to the procedure: students will choose (in pairs, as appropriate, or as a class) a specific shelter, a water source, a food source, a diversion, and décor.
2. Students will place the chosen elements and make predictions on how 'happy' the animal will be with the environment, which they will determine by the way that the animal uses the different elements in the terrarium.
3. Using a stopwatch, observe the animal and place check marks at the 20 second mark.
4. Discuss the results to try to determine if the animal or insect is 'happy' with the arrangements.
5. Discuss what could be changed and why it might improve the animal's 'happiness'.

Item #3 – 'The Sub-Mariner Turns 80. He's Still Super.'

Author: George Gene Gustines

Source: New York Times

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/27/arts/sub-mariner-marvel-namor.html>

Activity: Critical Thinking – Comparing and Contrasting: Watching the Evolution of a Character

1. Discuss the difference between fictional characters and real characters.
2. When the students understand this, brainstorm with the students about their favorite characters.
3. Choose a character, such as Superman, Bat Man, etc. that has existed for a long time.
4. Search for different images of the character using Google Images, explaining to the students how the search is done.
5. Ask the students to compare and contrast the images over time.
6. Discuss *style* and why changes may happen.

Item #4– Title: 'Greta Thunberg, Climate Activist, Arrives in NY with a Message for Trump'

Author: Anne Barnard

Source: NY Times

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/28/nyregion/greta-thunberg-new-york.html>

Activity – Social Studies – Careers: You Can Change the World Now

1. Ask the students if they need to be 'old' to change the world.
2. Reference how Greta Thunberg, 16 years old, piloted an emissions-free boat from Sweden to the US.
3. Ask if young children can also change the world. Discuss why or why not?
4. Show the students the video, '[Caine's Arcade](#)' Older students can watch a video about [Malala Yousafzai](#)
5. Brainstorm with the students about what they could do to make the better place as they get older.

Item #5 - Title: 'Florida Braces for Impact as Hurricane Dorian Nears'

Author: Dom Calicchio

Source: Fox News

Link: <https://www.foxnews.com/us/florida-braces-for-impact-as-hurricane-dorian-nears>

Activity: STEAM – Science – Meteorology – [Create a Hurricane](#)