

Sample ESL Lesson Plan: Animals and Habitats

Level: Primary (ages 7–10) **Duration:** 45 minutes **Theme:** Animals and Habitats **Skills Focus:** Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing

Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Identify common animals and their habitats.
- Use simple sentences to describe where animals live.
- Practice speaking through short dialogues.

Materials

- Flashcards of animals and habitats (lion, tiger, elephant, forest, desert, ocean).
- Worksheets for matching animals to habitats.
- Whiteboard and markers.

Lesson Procedure

1. Warm-Up (5–7 minutes) Play “Guess the Animal.” The teacher describes an animal without naming it, e.g., “This animal is big, has a mane, and lives in the grasslands.” Students guess the animal. Once correct, the teacher shows the flashcard and repeats the word clearly. This activates prior knowledge and builds excitement.

2. Input (10 minutes) Introduce new vocabulary using flashcards: lion, tiger, elephant, forest, desert, ocean. Pronounce each word slowly and clearly, encouraging students to repeat. Use gestures and sounds to reinforce meaning. For example, mimic an elephant’s trunk when saying “elephant.”

3. Practice (15 minutes) Distribute worksheets with pictures of animals and habitats. Students match animals to their correct habitats. Younger learners draw lines between pictures, while older learners write short sentences such as “The lion lives in the forest.” The teacher circulates, offering support and checking comprehension.

4. Production (10 minutes) Pair students to create short dialogues. One asks, “Where does the lion live?” and the other responds, “It lives in the forest.” After practicing several animals, pairs present their dialogues to the class. Advanced learners can extend sentences: “The lion lives in the forest. It is strong and fast.”

Assessment

- Observe participation during warm-up.
- Listen for pronunciation accuracy during input.
- Check worksheet completion during practice.
- Evaluate fluency and comprehension during production dialogues.

Reflection

At the end of the lesson, ask students: “What new words did you learn today?” and “Which animal was your favorite?” This encourages self-assessment and reinforces learning.

Teacher Notes

This lesson follows the four-part ESL structure: warm-up, input, practice, and production. It integrates visuals, worksheets, and speaking tasks to appeal to different learning styles. The theme of animals and habitats is engaging and adaptable, making it suitable for mixed-ability classrooms.