

ACTIVITY THREE

SORTING PENGUINS

Subjects: Biology, Natural Science

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Describe and differentiate various species of penguins.

MATERIALS:

- Library/Internet access to research penguin species
- Paper/Pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

Four species of penguins live in Antarctica. Have students devise ways to compare, contrast, sort, or categorize various penguin species. Here are some techniques to try:

- Fold a sheet of paper in fourths. On each section, describe one of the 17 penguin species. Include physical characteristics, habitat, nesting strategies, and a drawing of the penguin.
- Use the student page that follows to make copies and distribute to students individually or in groups to create flash cards comparing the 4 different species of penguins residing in Antarctica. Students could produce a class field guide to penguins, with each student contributing a page on a different species.
- Find out the sizes of different species and rank them in a size chart.
- Categorize the different species by where they live.
- Group them based on similarities in color and pattern.
 - Chinstrap Penguin
 - Macaroni Penguin
 - Adélie Penguin
 - Emperor Penguin
 - Magellanic Penguin
 - Gentoo Penguin
 - King Penguin
 - Rockhopper

ADAPTATIONS:

For younger students. Paste pictures of 4 or more different penguin species onto index cards, with two cards for each species. Have students play a memory game by spreading out all the cards face down and taking turns flipping over two cards at a time, attempting to turn over matching pairs. Ask them to describe the similarities and differences in the appearances of the different species.

USEFUL LINKS:

Visit www.climateclassroomkids.org/galleries to find photos of penguins and other species, plus panoramas of Antarctica. You'll find lots of ideas for the classroom on this NWF site.



STUDENT PAGE

Create flash cards comparing the 4 different species of penguins residing in Antarctica.

