



Kit Fox Lesson Plan Two

LEVELS:

Grades 3 to 6

SUBJECTS:

Language Arts

STATE STANDARDS: (New Mexico)

Language Arts: English Language Arts 6.29.4.9 A.
Strand 1: Reading/listening comprehension

CONCEPTS:

Animals mature differently than humans.

SKILLS:

Comparing and contrasting

OBJECTIVES:

Students will compare the maturity of the kit fox to their own maturity to see the differences and learn about the necessity of maturing quickly.

MATERIALS:

Piece of paper and pencil

TIME CONSIDERATIONS:

30 minutes

BACKGROUND:

Animals have to mature rapidly to survive. Students should gather the appropriate information on their own statistics.

FOX INFORMATION

Height –	11 to 12 inches
Weight –	4 to 6 pounds
Average weight at 1 year old –	4 to 6 pounds
Birth weight –	2.5 ounces
Average number of babies born at one time –	4 to 5
Length of time as a baby –	.5 months
Stays with parents –	5 to 6 months
Lifespan –	5 to 6 years

GETTING READY:

- Make a chart with two vertical columns. The headings of the columns are to be “YOU” and “KIT FOX.”
- On the left side, enter height, weight, etc. using the categories given. Do not put in the fox information yet.
- Make copies so the students can take it home to be filled out with their parents
- The next day, you can discuss the height, weight, etc. of students and the fox using the background information given.
- Discuss what each fox statistic could be before you tell them what it is.
- Discuss why the human and fox differ so much in these areas.

Reference Material for Kit Fox Lesson Plan:

- *National Audubon Society Field Guide to the Southwestern States: Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah* by Peter Alden and Peter Friederici
- *50 Common Mammals of the Southwest* by George Olin
- *Kaufman Field Guide to Mammals of North America* by Nora Bowers, Rick Bowers, and Kenn Kaufman
- *Fox* by Caroline Arnold
- *Crafty Canines: Coyotes, Foxes, and Wolves* (Watts Library: Animals) by Phyllis Jean Perry
- www.wildlifer.com/foxrefs.html Extensive bibliography for kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis*) and swift fox (*Vulpes velox*)
- <http://www.arkive.org/kit-fox/vulpes-macrotis/> Web page with images/videos of kit fox
- <http://digital-desert.com/wildlife> Fact sheets on extensive list of animals

