**Animal**

**Groups**

**Standard: 3.LS2.1 Construct an argument to explain why some animals benefit from forming groups.**

**Explain:**

**Why do Animals Form Groups? What are the Benefits?**

Citation: Lauren Madon

**Vocabulary Fill-in-the-Blank:**

Many people or things that are located together and are classified together is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a large group of animals that live, feed, or migrate together.

A group of organisms of one species that live and interact closely with each other is called a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

To \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ means to move from one region or habitat to another, especially during seasonal changes.

Citation: Lauren Madon

**Explore- “Amazing Ants: Group Behavior in Insects” Activity**

**Student Directions:**

1. Listen to the teacher’s explanation of the activity and wait for specific steps.
2. Listen carefully for the teacher to assign you as either a “Group Member” or an “Individual.”
3. Are you a group member?
* If yes: Meet with your group members at your “Group Nest.”
* If no: Find your “Individual Nest”, and go to it.
1. When the teacher says to start, each person must collect one piece of food at a time and bring it back to their nest. You can only get one piece at a time and cannot go back for another until you place the piece in your nest. Group members will be allowed to help each other, but can only get and put one piece of food at a time.
2. When the teacher calls time, stop what you are doing, and remain quiet. Listen to the teacher to see who will be switching from a “Group Member” to an “Individual.”
3. Group Members go to the “Group Nest.” Individual members go to the “Individual Nest.”
4. When the teacher says to start, begin the same process over again!

**Data Table**

**The Group vs. The Individual: Who will Collect More?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Group Vs. Individual  | Total Number of food pieces collected | Number of pieces per person | Observations |
| Group# of members: \_\_\_\_ |  |  |  |
| Individual |  |  |  |

**Explore- “Amazing Ants: Group Behavior in Insects” CER**

|  |
| --- |
| **Claim** (Write a sentence or two stating what you have observed about ants working together to gather food vs. one ant working alone to gather food.) |
| **Evidence** (Provide scientific data to support your claim. The evidence should include results from your table; for example, how much did the group collect? The individual?) |
| **Reasoning** (Explain why your evidence supports your claim. How or why does forming a group benefit ants or other animals when gathering food?) |

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**Data Table**

**The Group vs. The Individual: Who will Collect More? Example**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Group Vs. Individual  | Total Number of food pieces collected | Number of pieces per person | Observations |
| Group# of members: 2 | 124 | 62 | As a group, we were able to collect more food and did not have to work as hard as the individual did.  |
| Individual | 50 | 50 | I was not able to gather more than the group by myself. I also had to work a lot harder since I had no one to help me.  |

**Explore- “Amazing Ants: Group Behavior in Insects” CER Answer Key**

|  |
| --- |
| **Claim** (Write a sentence or two stating what you have observed about ants working together to gather food vs. one ant working alone to gather food.)The ants who worked in a group to gather food collected more food than the individual ant who worked by himself. Forming a group helped the ants to gather more food than they could have done alone.  |
| **Evidence** (Provide scientific data to support your claim. The evidence should include results from your table; for example, how much did the group collect? The individual?)The group of ants collected 164 pieces of food, which divided evenly into 62 pieces for each member of the group. The individual ant collected 50 pieces of food. Forming a group allowed them to collect and distribute food faster and gather more; the group had the benefit because they helped each other.  |
| **Reasoning** (Explain why your evidence supports your claim. How or why does forming a group benefit ants or other animals when gathering food?)Ants form groups so that they can work together to gather food and distribute it quickly. Forming groups benefits animals like ants because it allows them to help each other to survive.  |

Citation: Lauren Madon