Curriculum Materials

The Collection Connection Worksheet

Lesson Plan

**Subjects:** Environmental science, life science, language arts/writing.

**Lesson Summary:** Students will learn about museums of natural history, science libraries, and research scientists. They will also begin to learn about the "Linking" database and how to use it.

**Objectives:**

The students will be able to:

1. Explain the roles of a museum of natural history
2. Describe the audiences of a museum of natural history
3. Explain the similarities of museums and libraries
4. Explain why scientists take different kinds of specimen samples from nature
5. Describe how scientists at the Florida Museum of Natural History keep track of the specimens they find in the field

**Materials:**

Each student will need the following:

1. Computer with internet access
2. Paper
3. Pen or pencil
4. Copy of the collection database activity
5. Copy of the collection writing assignment

Teacher Preparation:

1. Print out a copy of the collection database activity and the collection writing assignment. Photocopy enough for everyone in your class.
2. Make sure the computers are ready for the students so there is no lost time. Put the Linking home page up on each computer: http://purl.fcla.edu/fcla/lfnh.

Procedures:

1. Pass out the collection database activity (this one must be filled out while reading the background information).
2. The students start at the "Linking" home page, click on "Curriculum Materials," click on "The Collection Connection: Natural History Museums and Libraries," and then click on "Collection Overview."
3. Ask them to read the collection overview and complete the collection activity. (40-60 minutes)
4. Pass out the museum writing assignment and ask the students to complete it. (30 minutes)

Total Time estimates:
Two 50 minute class periods or less

Assessment suggestions:
Coming soon

Extension suggestions:
Coming soon