My Oh, My, Mustelid

Subject: Science

Objective: Students will be able to use a variety of sources to research a mustelid and create a mustelid wheel demonstrating knowledge.

Materials:
- construction paper (2 pieces/student)
- scissors
- research materials
- coloring tools
- brad for each student

Procedure:
1. Review with students the animal kingdom. The fisher is in a family called mustelids. Mustelids come in many sizes, but most have short legs, short round ears and thick fur. Mustelids also have scent glands that are used for different purposes. Remind students that scientists are continually monitoring animal classification. The skunk, for instance, used to be classified as a mustelid, but it no longer is in that group. Scientists have found that it actually belongs to a family called Mephitidae.
2. Discuss other mustelids found in the United States (weasels, badgers, sea otters, river otters, ferrets, minks, wolverines, and martens). Talk about how mustelids are different from each other. Review animal adaptations. Remind students that all of the varied sizes, shapes, diets and hunting methods help the animals to survive in the environment in which they live.
3. Assign each student (or pair of students) a mustelid to research. Students should gather information and with it create a mustelid wheel. Hand out the following page. Have students complete the wheel. The circles can be glued to construction paper and then cut out to make the wheel stronger.
4. After students share their wheels with one another, display wheels for others to learn about mustelids!
Place a Brad in the middle to hold wheels together.

Cut out circles again and place circle #1 on top of circle #2.

Color. Cut out and glue circles to construction paper. Cut

Directions: Complete circles with words and illustrations.

My, Oh, My, Mustelid
Fisher T-shirt

Subject: Art & Language Arts

Objective:
Art: Students will gain a basic understanding of design concepts.
Language Arts: Students will write in a variety of formats to record, generate and reflect upon ideas.

Materials:
- Fisher T-shirt template
- Colored pencils or markers

Procedure:
1. Discuss t-shirt logos that students have seen before.
2. Instruct students to design a t-shirt about fishers with a slogan and picture.
3. When the students’ rough drafts meet with your approval, give them the Fisher T-shirt template.
4. Students transfer their designs onto the t-shirt template, color, and cut the template out.
5. After students have completed their t-shirts, have the students give a short speech explaining their design.
6. Hang the t-shirts in the hall, maybe even on a piece of clothesline.
Fisher T-shirt

Design a t-shirt with a slogan and picture explaining what you know about fishers. Color and cut out your t-shirt.
Fisher Word Search

Find the words associated with the fisher.

BIG FEET
CARNIVORE
CLAWS
CLIMB
DEN
FISHER
FIVE TOES
FOREST
FUR
HOLLOW
KIT
MUSK
MUSTELID
PORCUPINE
PREDATOR
PROTECTED
SCENT
SHORT LEGS
SNAG
TREE