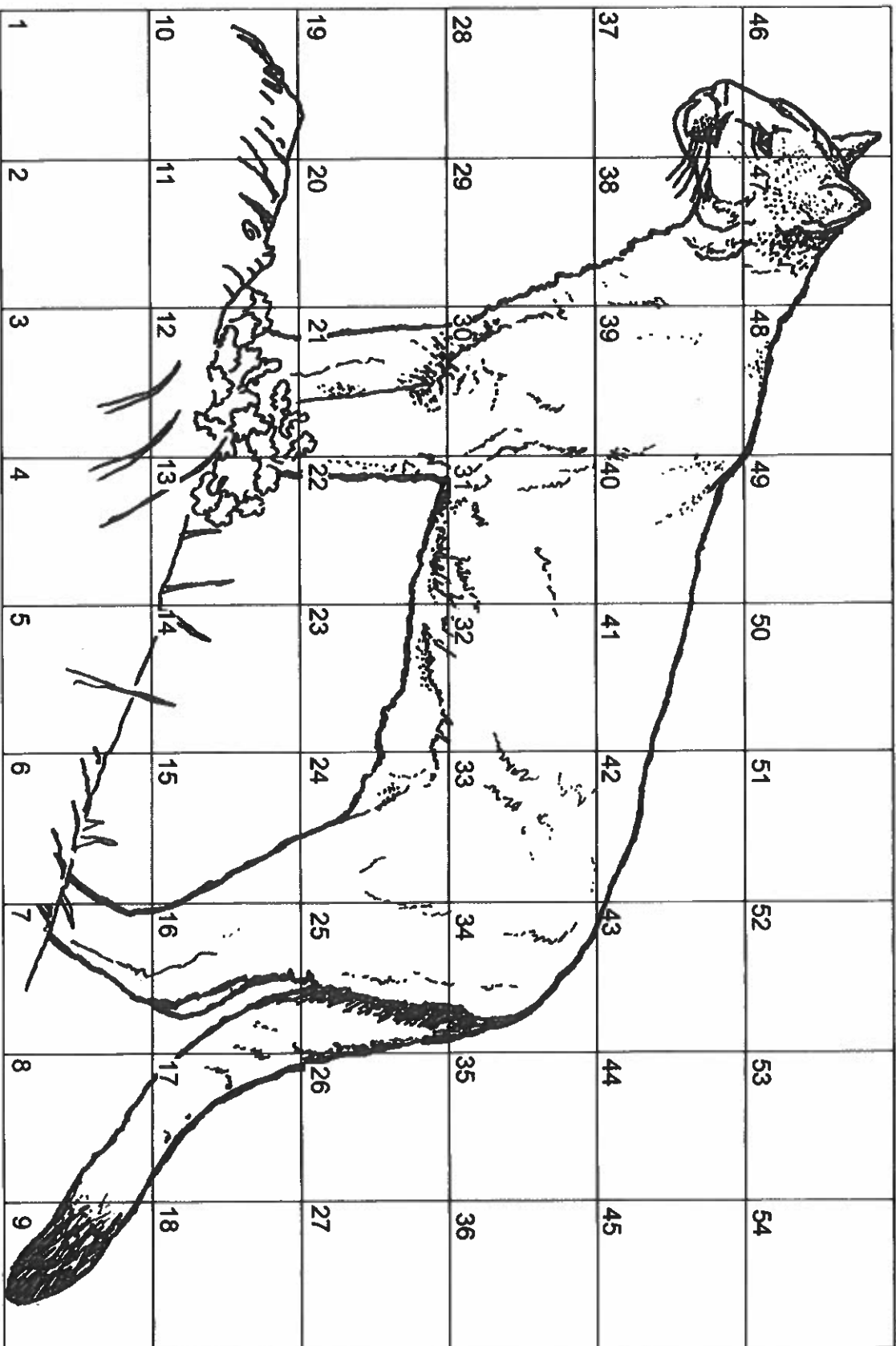


Puma Picture



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Puma Picture Directions

1. Make two copies of this page. For one of the copies, cut on the one inch grid lines. Save the other for reference.
2. Cut 7" X 7" squares and have students replicate their one inch square onto the larger paper.
3. Tape or glue squares together to make a life sized cougar. Outline and color if desired.

Taxonomy Talk

Subjects: Science

Objectives: To introduce students to the classification of life on our planet

Materials: Chalkboard or overhead.

Procedure:

1. Discuss with students the need to classify or organize things. Also discuss the confusion that occurs when two things are the same but have different names. Many times, things are called by different names depending on the region of the country. Examples: soda and pop, or bag and sack. The English call the hood of a car a bonnet. Can the students think of plants or animals that have more than one common name?
2. Have the students begin to classify things they are familiar with. An example may be: Modern Methods of Transportation with air, water, and land being your major categories (or Kingdoms). Then take one category (Land Transportation Kingdom) and subdivide that into family transportation and mass transportation (these are similar to phyla). Take one of these, family transportation, and again subdivide into cars, trucks, vans, SUVs. Be sure to discuss the similarities of each group. Can your students further subdivide these categories? By size or manufacturer or something else? This activity should initiate understanding of the classification concept. Other examples you could use besides transportation are shoes or sports.
3. Most of us have used a mnemonic code to memorize one thing or another. The names of the Great Lakes or musical notes for example. Some of us may even remember learning a mnemonic code for taxonomy! The first initials of the taxonomic hierarchy, KPCOFGS, are difficult to remember by themselves. But how about this one?: Kids Pouring Chocolate On Frogs Get Slimed! Ask your students to create their own mnemonic code for the same order of taxonomic initials.



Cougar Classifieds

Subjects: Language Arts and Science

Objectives:

Science: Students will be able to synthesize what they've learned about a mountain lion's habitat.

Language Arts: Write in a variety of formats to record, generate and reflect upon ideas.

Materials:

- Examples of advertisements from a newspaper
- Pencil and paper

Procedure:

1. Review the components of habitat with your students - food, water, shelter, and space in the proper arrangement.
2. Ask the students to imagine that they are a mountain lion looking for a place to live. Have them describe why they are looking for a habitat, what they would like to have available in their habitat and how long they will be in the habitat.
3. Instruct children to write and illustrate advertisements that offer mountain lion habitat for rent.
4. Display the advertisements.

Extension: Have students create a cougar newspaper that includes cougar issues and stories. Don't forget the comic section!

Assessment idea: Ask the students which classified ad a cougar might answer and why.

Example:

360 acres prime cougar habitat. Good mix food, water, shelter. Plenty of elk to eat and mule deer for dessert. Great view of nearby mountains and lake. Can't beat the price. Call 1-800-PUMA-CAT



What Cat Am I? Book

Subjects: Science and Language Arts

Objectives: *Science:* Students will be able to research and learn about wild cats.
Language Arts: Students will be able to use factual information to write a fictional story.

Materials:

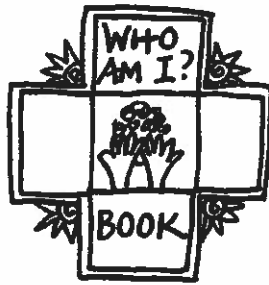
- directions for making a Who Am I? book (following page)
- Hole punch and ball of yarn

For Each child:

- writing and coloring materials
- paper bag or 12" X 18" construction paper for each child
- scissors
- front or back panel of a cereal or cracker box
- glue

Procedure:

1. Tell students they will be researching wild cats and creating a Who Am I? book to share with other students.
2. Students should research for the following four clues:
 - Where in the World I Live.
 - What do I eat?
 - One interesting Fact
 - One Problem I Face or a topic of your choice
3. Each student (or group of students) should then make a Who Am I? book with a picture of the cat they researched in the center of the book. Be sure to allow students time to share their stories with classmates and younger book buddies!

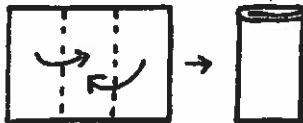


I use this fun form a lot, especially with second and third grades. Each of the four folded pages has one or two facts. When they are all opened, the center page reveals the identity. I've used them for biographies in history, countries in geography, animals in science, and numbers in math- I am half B, I am $2 + 2$, etc. You can use velcro instead of the tie.

You Need:

- ① 1 piece of paper (I use the back panel of a brown grocery bag)
- ② front or back panel of cereal or cracker box
- ③ 1 piece 24" yarn
- ④ Scissors
- ⑤ Glue stick and scrap paper
- ⑥ Hole punch

1. Place the paper in front of you so that it is a sideways rectangle and fold it into thirds. I find the best way is to roll it into a three part tube and then flatten it. This fold can be a little tricky but don't worry: if it's not exact, that's okay.

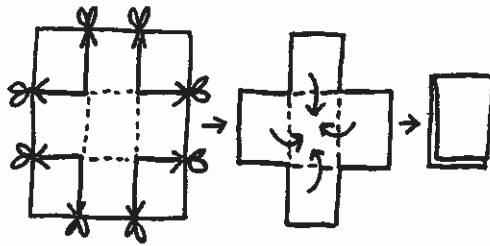


2. Keep the paper folded and fold it into thirds the other way. Because the paper is smaller, it will be easier this time.

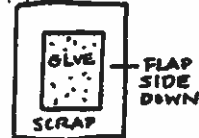


3. Open the paper and cut out the four corner pieces to make a large plus sign.

4. Fold the pages in. The order doesn't matter.



5. Place the folded pages flap side down on a piece of scrap paper. Cover the top surface with glue.



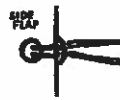
6. Place the glued and folded pages in the center of the cardboard with a very narrow border at the top.



8. Fold each side of the over the pages being careful not to fold the pages.

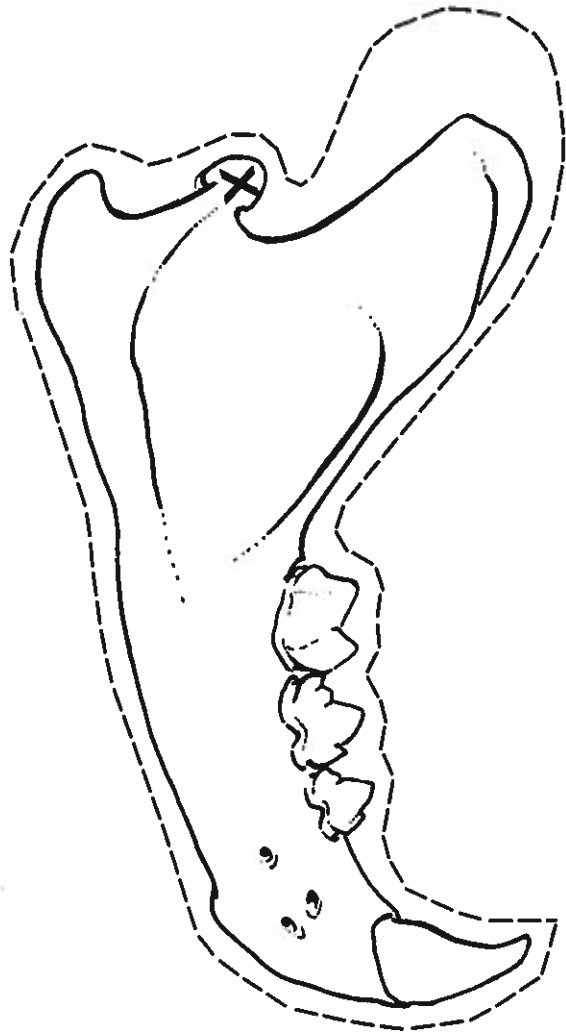


9. Punch a hole in the center of one of the side flaps. Fold the yarn in half. Put the loop through the hole. Fill the loop from the back of the hole and open it up. Put the ends of the yarn through the loop and pull to tighten. Wrap the yarn around the book and tuck it under to keep the book closed.



More bookmaking ideas are available at Susan's website, makingbooks.com. Ebooks are available for purchase at the Bookstore at makingbooks.com.





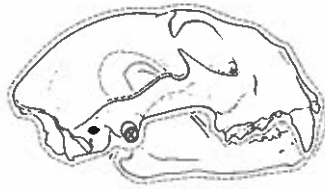
Make a mountain lion skull!

Cut out the mountain lion skull and jaw (mandible) along the dashed lines. On the skull, carefully cut along the dashed line above the solid curved line (the zygomatic arch).

Place the jaw behind the skull. Slip the upper portion of the jaw through the slot in the skull.

Line up the X's on the skull and jaw. Push a brad through the X's. Open the brad to hold the skull and jaw together.

CLOSED



OPEN

