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Group Interaction

Preparation Time : 3 minutes Assessment Time : 3 minutes

You and two classmates are working on a class project about a wild animal and the problems facing the animal because of the environmental issues.



In your discussion, you may talk about:

- what kind of wild animal your group is going to work on
- where the animals live
- what problems the animal are facing in the wild e.g. climate change, pollution...
- what should be done to make sure the animals will have the environment they need to survive
- any other details that are important

You may begin by saying:

I suggest that we choose one of the wild animals from the picture above...

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Teacher notes

Managing the assessments or extending the tasks

- You could digitally record the discussion to increase the accuracy of the assessment.
- If you decide to play a more active role, you could give less confident students verbal instructions for each step of the discussion.
- You could also suggest to students that they decide who will start and in which order they will speak, especially if they are shy to get started.
- You could specify a particular wild animal to link the assessment to a recent classroom topic of study.

Possible language structures and expressions:

1. Giving descriptions:

“The environment of an ostrich is ...”

“To survive, bats need ...”

“... will not survive without ...”

“... extremely cold climate ...”

“... dry grasslands ...”

“... warm, dry climate...”

“... is quickly disappearing...”

“...move slowly ...”

“... under rocks ...”

2. Making comparisons

“At present ... but in the future ...”

“Today ... however, in 50 years’ time ...”

3. Making general statements:

“Monkeys are ...”

“Pandas have ...”

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“Chinese white dolphins live in ...”

“Monkeys eat ...”

“Pandas are only found ...”

“Chinese white dolphins belong to ...”

4. Referring to events:

“Pandas will sometimes ...”

“Monkeys have been ...”

“Their habitat is threatened by ...”

“Chinese white dolphins often ...”

“In the future, they will need ...”

5. Justifying a point of view

“In order to come to an agreement, we ...”

“Since we all agree, shall we ...?”

“... as long as we’re all happy ...”

“...although I like your idea too.”

“So, despite the fact that ...”

6. Expressing agreement and disagreement

”I see your point, but...”

“I absolutely agree ...”

“That’s just what I was thinking ...”

“You’re absolutely right!”

“I don’t think so either.”

“Neither do I.”

Possible vocabulary:

Natural environment; habitat; eat; food; water; shelter; climate; weather; temperature; protection; breed; survive; population.