Animal Kingdom: Pre/Post Vocabulary and Concept Inventory

The purpose of the vocabulary inventory is to capture what students know about key concepts before and after instruction.

The pre/post inventory is divided into two categories:

(1) five of the main animal groups in the animal kingdom (mammals, amphibians, fish, birds, and arthropods)
(2) key concepts that apply to each animal group—description, habitat, behavior, and life cycle.

General directions for using the inventory:

- Tell students that they are going to tell what they know about some very big words. Explain that the words maybe ones they have not heard before. Reassure them that is okay.
- 2. Write down what the students say. Possible responses are provided for easy check off. Encourage students to "tell more" after they provide a response. The goal is to capture students' vocabulary and concept knowledge pre and post instruction.
- 3. Save the recording sheets to use post-instruction to compare with prior knowledge.

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Date _____ Date _____

PRE – Concept Questions	POST – Concept Questions
What can you tell me about fish ? Live in water Have scales Breathe through gills	What can you tell me about fish ?
What can you tell me about mammals ? Possible content for response: Has hair Has backbone Warm-blooded Mothers make and feed milk to babies	What can you tell me about mammals ?
What can you tell me about birds ? Possible content for response: Have wings Can fly Lay eggs which hatch into baby birds	What can you tell me about birds ?
What can you tell me about amphibians ? Possible content for response: Can live in water and on land Often change stages as it grows from birth to adult	What can you tell me about amphibians ?
What can you tell me about arthropods ? Possible content for response: Have more than four legs Legs have joints Skeleton is on the outside of the body	What can you tell me about arthropods ?
Comments and Observations:	

PRE – Concept Questions	POST – Concept Questions	
Have you heard the word description ? yesno	Have you heard the word description ? yes no	
Can you tell me what the word means?	Can you tell me what the word means?	
Have you heard the word habitat ? yes no	Have you heard the word habitat ? yes no	
Can you tell me what the word means?	Can you tell me what the word means?	
Have you heard the word behavior ? yes no	Have you heard the word behavior ? yes no	
Can you tell me what the word means?	Can you tell me what the word means?	
Have you heard the words life cycle?	Have you heard the words life cycle?	
yes no	yes no	
Can you tell me what the word means?	Can you tell me what the word means?	
Comments and Observations:		