

**Lesson Plan Title**

Acting Out What We Need To Live and Grow

**Grade Level**

Kindergarten

**Subject Area**

Science

**MSCCRS**

L.K.3A Students will demonstrate an understanding of what animals and plants need to live and grow.

L.K.3A.1 With teacher guidance, conduct a structured investigation to determine what plants need to live and grow (water, light, and a place to grow). Measure growth by directly comparing plants with other objects.

L.K.3A.2 Construct explanations using observations to describe and report what animals need to live and grow (food, water, shelter, and space).

**Art Form**

Drama

**MSCCR Creative Arts Standards**

TH: Cr1.1.K Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work. ENVISION / CONCEPTUALIZE a. With prompting and support, invent and inhabit an imaginary elsewhere in dramatic play or a guided drama experience (e.g., process drama, story drama, creative drama).

TH: Cr2.1.K Organize and develop artistic ideas and work. DEVELOP With prompting and support, interact with peers and contribute to dramatic play or a guided drama experience (e.g., process drama, story drama, creative drama).

**Duration**

30 minutes

**Materials**

Chart paper

**Objectives**

Students will understand that animals need food, water, shelter and air to survive.

Students will understand that plants need energy (food), water, light and a place to grow to survive.

Students will understand that to improvise is to act without a script.

Students will improvise what animals and plants need to survive.

### **Vocabulary**

Survive

Energy

Improvise

Act

Script

### **Lesson Description**

1. Have students brainstorm answers to the following questions:

- What do living things need to stay alive?
- What do you need? What do your pets need?
- What do plants need?

Record students' answers on chart paper.

2. Show students the **What Do Animals Eat?** (1 minute)

video. <https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/tdc02.sci.life.colt.eat/what-do-animals-eat/>

Ask:

- Why do animals need to eat?
- What kinds of things do they eat?
- Do all living things eat?
- Do plants eat?

Explain that animals need to eat for energy; plants don't eat, but they still need energy. Ask:

- "Where do plants get energy?"

Animals need: food, water, shelter and air.

Plants need: energy (food), water, light and a place to grow.

Now we are going to learn a new word: **improvise**. Improvise is something you will do, so you will need to know what it means to improvise.

(Improvisation is the activity of making or doing something not planned beforehand, using whatever can be found. Improvisation in the performing arts is a very spontaneous performance without specific or scripted preparation).

When you watch a movie or a TV show, the characters are acting. They learned their part by reading a script. A script tells the actors what to do.

When you improvise, you act without a script, which means you come up with the response on your own.

I am going to ask you to act out something, and you will improvise, which means you will decide how to act. I am not going to tell you how to act, which would be like giving you a script.

Act like you are happy. Are you using your whole body? Act like you are mad! Act like you are cold.

Act like you are a gentle (soft) rain. Act like you are a thunderstorm! Act like you are a tornado!

Now you are a plant. Show me how you feel when it rains. Show me how you feel when the sun is shining. Show me what would happen if you were put in a closet? Why did you act that way? *Allow for discussion.*

Now you are an elephant. Show me what you need, without using words, something you need to stay alive. What else do you need? Show me what would happen if you could not find any water? Why did you act that way? *Allow for discussion.*

Now you are a butterfly. Show me a butterfly using space. Show me what would happen if I put you in a ziplock bag? Why did you act that way? *Allow for discussion.*

Great job of improvising! Think about what you improvised, and then we can use that to review what living things need.

Let's review what animals need to survive: food, water, shelter and air.

Let's review what plants need to survive: energy (food), water, light and a place to grow.

Would anyone like to perform you improvising something? You can share one we did today or make up one on your own, and we will guess what you are doing! Remember that you can not use words, just actions.

### **Recommended Resources**

Play some fun improv games

<https://kidactivities.net/improv-games-and-exercises/>

### **Extended Learning Activities**

Watch the [Biome in a Baggie](#) video. The students can each grow their own plant or just grow a class plant.

Write a class story about an animal that solves a problem of not having enough food. It can be a silly story!

- character(s)
- setting

- problem
- resolution

**Sources**

PBS Learning

**Tips**

Have fun!!

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