

Topic: Living things change, human life cycle.

Overview

This lesson is intended to show that humans change over time through the use of various technology tools (projector, computer, scanner, Kidspiration, interactive whiteboard, printer). Students will discover that people change as they go through the life cycle. Students should be familiar with plant life cycles (pumpkins, apples, flowers...).

Grade K

Time Allotment

Two 30-40 minute sessions

Learning Objectives

On completion of this lesson, students will be able to:

- show how a person changes from birth to old age
- describe how they have changed from birth to the present

(This lesson addresses Va. SOL Science K.6; Computer/Technology C/T K-2.1, C/T K-2.2)

Media Components

- Scanner
- Teacher Computer
- Computer lab
- Multimedia projector
- Kidspiration
- Interactive Whiteboard/Smartboard
- Printer

Materials and Student Handouts

- Parent letter asking for their child's baby photo and a sentence describing what their child liked to do as a baby.
- Baby photo of each student
- Printer paper – 1/ student
- Kidspiration Activity: Human Life Cycle.kid – 1/ student, attached

Teacher Preparations

- Type, copy, and send home parent notes at least 2 days in advance.
- Reserve the computer lab for day two.

Day 1

- Scan each baby photo into your computer. Crop photos as necessary and save into one folder that can be accessed by classroom computer.
- Connect teacher computer and projector in classroom.

- Compile parent returned notes and read through to make sure they are legible.
- Open folder with pictures and click on “View as a slide show” in upper left hand corner. Click on the pause button in the upper right hand corner and turn off monitor and cover projector until it is time to show the pictures.

Day 2

- Download Kidspiration activities to server or individual student machines.
- Connect computer, projector and Smartboard in computer lab.

Introductory Activities

Day 1

1. Focus: Say: Do you ever wonder how people change as they get older? Today we will look at how you have changed since you were born. When people are born, what are they called? First, we will look at your baby pictures and see if we can guess whose picture it is. We will look to see how each child is the same as their baby picture and how they are different.

Activity: Uncover the projector and turn on the monitor and show the first baby picture. Ask children who they think it is. Call on various children to explain why they think that. Have the correct student come up and stand beside their picture. Ask students to state: what is the same about the child and the baby. Ask children to state what has changed or what is different from the child now and as a baby. Continue with each child that you have a picture for by pushing the forward button in the upper right hand corner.

Follow-up: Ask the students: what was the same about the children and their baby pictures and what was different. Why did their baby pictures look different than the children do now? What changed? Was it hard or easy to guess which child matched which baby? Why were some pictures easier to guess than others?

2. Focus: Say: We saw how you changed in your appearance or looks. Did you change in any other ways from when you were a baby? Let's hear how some of you have changed. Listen for what these students used to like to do and what they like to do now.

Activity: Read one parent note describing what a student used to like to do when they were a baby. Have that student tell what they like to do now.

Follow-up: Ask students what the baby liked to do and what the student likes to do now? Are their likes the same or different? Why do you think they changed? Could babies do the same things they like to do now? Continue with this method of questioning as you read each child's parent note and repeat the activity. At the end, ask students do you think that when you grow up you will change and like to do different things that you can't do now? What things can grown-ups or adults do that you can't do yet?

Learning Activity

Day 2

1. Focus: (Computer Lab) Today we are going to make another life cycle. We have made and learned about life cycles of plants, but today we are going to do a life cycle for humans. We are going to look for how people change as they get older so we will know which pictures to use.

Activity: Using a Smartboard or other interactive whiteboard demonstrate and complete Kidspiration activity together as a class.

Follow-up: Ask children to describe what the person would look like for each circle. For the first bubble, ask children what people are born as. Then have them describe what a baby looks like and choose one picture. For the next circle, ask them what a baby grows into and have them describe what children look like and choose a picture of a child. Continue for each life cycle stage (teenager, adult, senior citizen). Type in labels for each life stage as children name them.

Culminating Activity

Focus: Tell the students that they will complete the same life cycle at their own computers. They can choose their own pictures and type their own labels to show each stage in the life cycle.

Activity: Students complete Kidspiration activity on their own. Circulate and assist students, as needed.

Follow-up: Have students print completed activity to hand in for use as assessment.

Assessment

- Teacher Observation
- Kidspiration Activity – Were students able to put the correct picture of a person representing each life cycle stage (baby, child, teen, adult, senior)? Did students label each picture correctly?

Community Connections

- Invite student's grandparents to the classroom to share any baby, child, and adult photos of themselves and have them talk about how they have changed as they've grown older.
- Take a field trip to a local nursing home and have each child or pair of children pair up with a senior who will share photos of themselves and talk about how they have changed as they've grown older.

Cross-Curricular Extensions

Language Arts

- Students can make a book with each page showing one stage of their life cycle. Copy student's baby photos and a current photo to be cut and glued onto the first two pages of the book. Then have children draw what they will look like as a

teenager, adult, and senior citizen. Have children write 1 sentence on each page of what they can do at each stage. Provide sentence starters, such as “When I was a baby I could _____.” “Now I can _____.” “When I’m a teenager I will _____.” “When I’m a grown-up I will _____.” “When I’m old I will _____.”

Math

- Print and cut apart student’s baby photos and current photos. Have children sort the photos into baby and child groups. Children can keep sorting by similarities and differences in the photos: eye color, gender, hair color, hair/no hair, standing/sitting....
- Print and cut apart student’s baby photos and label each photo with baby’s height and weight. Have students put the pictures in order from shortest to tallest and then by lightest to heaviest.

About the Author

Sarah Nicklaus is a kindergarten teacher at Waterman Elementary in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

This lesson was developed as part of the Spring 2007 WVPT NTTI for the Virginia Enhancing Education through Technology Ed Tech Grant awarded to the Shenandoah Valley Technology Consortium.

