

LESSON PLAN

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Children will be able to understand how day and night is affected by the Earth's rotation, and the differences between animals that are active in the day and those that only come out at night.

TUNING IN (5 MINS):

- Talk about nocturnal and diurnal animals. Define "nocturnal" as a way to describe animals that are active at night and "diurnal" as a way to describe animals that are active in the day.
- Ask the children whether they know of any nocturnal and diurnal animals.

INSTRUCTIONS (5-10 MINS):

1. Read the book "Day Monkey, Night Monkey" by Julia Donaldson aloud.
2. Pause as you read and ask the children guiding questions such as:
 - Which monkey in the story is a nocturnal animal – Day Monkey or Night Monkey?
 - When the sun rose for a brand new day, how did Night Monkey feel?



GUIDED PRACTICE (30-40 MINS):

1. Prepare a torchlight and have two children play the role of the Sun and the Earth respectively.
 2. The child acting as the Earth should stand in their place while the child acting as the Sun should stand a distance away, holding the torchlight.
 3. Instruct the child acting as the Earth to turn around slowly in their place while the child acting as the Sun stands still and shines a torchlight on the Earth.
 4. Ask the class to observe where the Sun's light is shining on. Explain that the side of the child facing the Sun is experiencing day, while the side facing away from the Sun is experiencing night.
 5. Explain to the class that light from the Sun helps humans stay active during the day. Nocturnal animals have special senses of sight, hearing and smell that help them remain active at night.
 6. Look for pictures of the following examples of nocturnal and diurnal animals found in Singapore such as:
 - a. Fruit Bat
 - b. Otter
 - c. Pied Oriental Hornbill
 - d. Sunda Scops Owl
 - e. Raffles' Banded Langur
- Share these pictures with the children and sort them according to whether these animals are nocturnal or diurnal.
7. Encourage the class to either draw one of these creatures or get the class to guess which of these animals are nocturnal and diurnal, based on their characteristics in a matching game.

CLOSURE (10 MINS):

Review the learning objectives for this activity:

- Is it the Sun or the Earth that moves to bring about day and night?
- Reiterate that sunlight plays an important role in determining the activity level of living things.

