Trip to the Zoo Performance Task Classroom Interaction

Resources needed:

- chalkboard or some manner for recording and displaying student responses
- projector or some manner to share photographs

Setting the Context

Facilitator says: "Today we are going to talk about how much money a day at the zoo might cost."

Facilitator asks: "Have you ever been to the zoo?" [Wait for responses.]

Facilitator says: "A zoo is a place where animals from all over the world are kept. Many cities and towns have their own zoos. People from the cities and towns can visit the zoo and see many different types of animals."

Facilitator displays Figure 1 on the projector or other display.

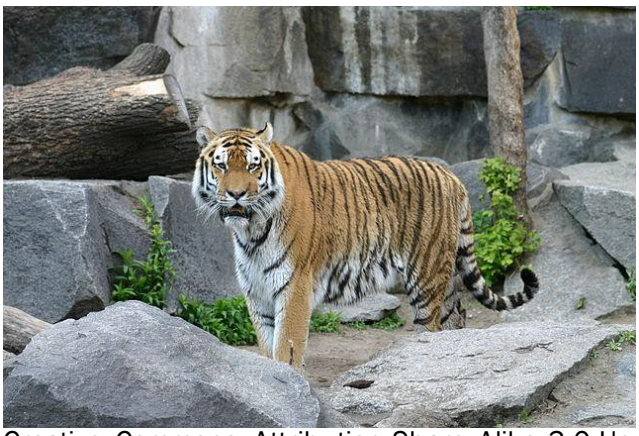
Figure 1

Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported (CC BY-SA 3.0)
A sculpture of an elephant at the entrance of the San Diego Zoo in San Diego, California, USA.
By: cBurnett
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:San_Diego_Zoo_entrance_elephant.jpg

Facilitator says: "Here is a picture of the entrance to a famous zoo in San Diego, California. It has a special sculpture in the shape of an elephant, since elephants are one of the animals that can be seen there."

Facilitator displays Figure 2 and Figure 3 on projector or other display.

Figure 2



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Tiger in Berlin Tierpark
By Softeis
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tiger_berlin-5.JPG

Figure 3

Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported (CC BY-SA 3.0)
Giants of the Savanna Exhibit
By Kevin1086
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Giants_of_the_Savanna_Inhabitants.jpg

Facilitator says: "Here are some pictures of some of the different animals you can see at the zoo."

Facilitator says: "Zoos have animals like tigers, giraffes, zebras, monkeys, and elephants. They also have other things for kids and families to enjoy."

Facilitator asks: "What things might kids and families do at a zoo, other than look at the animals?" [Wait for responses; write responses on the board.]

Facilitator says: "Zoos have cafeterias and food stands, so that visitors can eat lunch."

Facilitator says: “Many zoos also have gift shops. This is where visitors can buy gifts and other things to remember their trip with.”

Facilitator asks: “What are some things visitors might buy at a zoo’s gift shop?” [Wait for responses; write responses on the board. Responses might include: stuffed animals, postcards, picture frames, calendars, note cards, pens, magnets, etc. If these are not raised, the Facilitator will introduce these ideas.]

Facilitator says: “For our discussion and for the task you will be working on, we will be thinking about how much money a group might need for a trip to the zoo.”

Modeling a Process

Facilitator says: “Let’s assume we are planning to take a trip to the zoo. We only have a certain amount of money, so we want to make sure we will have enough to pay for the trip for all of us.”

Facilitator asks: “What might we spend money on during our trip to the zoo?” [Wait for responses; write responses on the board. Responses should include tickets to the zoo, food for lunch, and gifts from the gift shop. If these are not raised, the Facilitator will introduce these ideas.]

Facilitator asks: “How will we know how much money each of these things cost?” [Wait for responses. Responses might include checking the zoo’s website, a zoo pamphlet, or signs at the zoo. If these are not raised, the Facilitator will introduce these ideas.]

Facilitator asks: “How we will figure out how much money these things will cost for all of us?” [Wait for responses. Responses should include: using repeated addition and/or multiplication with the rate per item multiplied by the number students in the class.]

Facilitator says: “You have done a great job thinking about what we need to do when trying to figure out how much it might cost to go to the zoo. Some of the things we need to think about are the cost of tickets into the zoo, the cost of food, and the cost of gifts.”

Facilitator says: “Now you are going to apply these ideas and this type of thinking to a task on your own. In this task, you will be working on a number of questions about figuring out how much money a family should plan to spend on a trip to the zoo.”

Begin Performance Task

Resource Documents

Figure 1

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