

Books to Treasure

Actual Size

Written & Illustrated by Steve Jenkins

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Visual Arts and Science Processes and Inquiry

Lesson Plan by Marianne Stambaugh

Martin Regional Library Children's Department Supervisor

Activity #1

Focus: Students will make their own picture of an animal or person using cut paper. They will add a simple fact and measurement about their subject, as if they are adding a page to the book [Actual Size](#).

Pass Objectives:

- 1.1 Identify visual art terms e.g. collage etc.
- 3.3 Demonstrate composition using the elements of art and design.
- 1.1 Science Processes and Inquiry

Supplies: Gather glue, paper, fabric, and foam sheets of various colors, designs and textures for this project. Students should all put their pictures on the same size paper.

Lead students to think about what they would like to portray. Have them make a picture of themselves or a real pet. They will prepare to do their picture by first sketching the picture on a piece of paper. If the subject is bigger than their piece of paper, they need to consider which part of the object they want to portray. Have them trace or draw the outline with the actual subject there. They may want to draw their face, hand, feet. For a pet, have them trace the shape of the animal or its body part at home. They also need to take measurements of their subject. (e.g., I am 50" tall. They might want to think of an interesting fact to add.

After determining the actual size of their object, students will then design how they want to portray it using different kinds of materials.

Put every student's work into a single book. If possible, you could copy each page and make a book for each child. Just remember, don't reduce or enlarge pages – they must be actual size!

Activity #2

Focus: Let students use the information in the book to compare creatures in the book. Have them put the animals in order smallest to largest.

Pass Objectives:

Science Processes and Inquiry

1.1 Observe and Measure

1.2 Classify

Supplies: Gather markers and long strips of “butcher” paper for students to measure. Students will use the book to do their research. They will need tape measures (or other measuring tool); they will need to understand the relationship of inches to feet.

Divide them into teams to work together. Using strips of paper, have each team measure the length of one or more of the animals. They will then label each paper so everyone can see which animal it represents. When everyone is done, lay out the lengths of paper to see which animals are the largest and how they compare to each other. Let them look at how big each animal would be in their classroom. Another possibility is to let students draw their creatures in actual size in chalk outside on pavement.