

## Class Pet Lesson Plan: Reptiles

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Grade Level: 4<sup>th</sup>



[http://s3.amazonaws.com/production.mediajoint.prx.org/public/piece\\_images/340069/biggies-reptiles-peel-2\\_small.jpg](http://s3.amazonaws.com/production.mediajoint.prx.org/public/piece_images/340069/biggies-reptiles-peel-2_small.jpg)

IC: Writing Standards W.4.7

Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.

**Objective:**

Given access to books and the internet, 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will be able to create a slideshow presentation about a reptile of their choice containing at least ten slides and answering the following questions:

1. Introduction Slide (Reptile's name and picture, student name)
2. Where is your reptile found in the wild?
3. Can your reptile be kept as a pet? Why or why not?
4. What kind of habitat does your reptile need?
5. What does your reptile's diet consist of?
6. What would you need to do to care for your reptile if it was in a zoo or in your house?
7. Does your reptile have any predators in the wild? List them. (Hint: Humans can be predators to animals.)
8. Does your reptile have any defense mechanisms to protect itself?
9. Does your reptile live in groups or alone?
10. Conclusion Slide

IC: Writing Standards

W.4.2

1. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
  1. Introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.

**Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.**

**Objective:**

**After completing research on a specific reptile, 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will be able to take the information they have found and present it in an organized and logical way with zero spelling errors.**

**Anticipatory Set:** I will ask students to do a quick write (3 minutes) about a pet they may have. If students do not have pets, I will have them write about a pet they would like. I will ask them to tell me the pros and cons of having this particular pet. I will also ask them to write down the care instructions for this pet. When students are done, we will come back together as a class and share what we have written.

**Modeling:** I will tell the class that I think a tortoise would be a really neat pet to have. I will tell them I was thinking about this last night and that I looked up some information about them. I will then show the students the slideshow I made about tortoises.

*Check for understanding-*I will ask questions as I present my slideshow to make sure students are absorbing the information.

*Reteach (if needed)-* If students can't answer one of my questions, I will go back and we will find the answer together as a class in my slideshow.

**Guided Instruction:** As a class, we will talk about important things to think about before getting a pet. We will also talk about how reptiles are classified and name as many reptiles as we can.

*Check for understanding-* I will tell students that they will have the opportunity to make a slideshow like mine on a reptile of their choice. I will give them some time to look up reptiles and choose one they would like to study.

*Reteach (if needed)-* I will help students individually if they are struggling.

**Independent Practice:** I will give students the list of research questions and let them start working using the Internet and books. Students will be able to work at their own pace and move on to making the slideshow whenever they are ready.

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**Closure:** Each student will present his or her presentations to the class. We will make a list of the reptiles that would make good classroom pets. Then I will have students cast their vote for the pet they would want the most.

**Assessment:** I will assess students on their presentations. I will also have them write 3 interesting things from each presentation to turn in. This will give them a purpose for listening.

**Enrichment/Extension/Modification:** I will be going around the room to work one on one with students as they are researching and making their slideshows. As an extension activity, students will write persuasive letters to the principal explaining the reasons why it would be a good idea to let our classroom have the pet that was voted as most popular.

**Materials:**

- Access to the internet for each student
- Access to books on reptiles for students
- A way of projecting the slideshows to the class
- Paper and pencils to write letters to the principal
- Possibly a new class reptile!

