This lesson plan will cover the basic information about hedgehogs, or in particular our class pet Hedgehog “Pearl”

The children will participate in:

- Circle time discussions,
- Arts and crafts,
- Handling of the Hedgehog. (Pearl)
- Cage cleaning and feeding

Learning Objectives

- To be able to Identify a hedgehog
- Discuss different things about the Hedgehog concerning
  - food, and care facts
  - habitat, (natural and class)
  - nature,
  - habits,
  - sensory (touch how they feel)
- Story time (books about hedgehog)
- Phonics: Words pertaining to the hedgehog.
  - Mammal, Nocturnal, quills, porcupine, habitat, carnivore/herbivore

Curriculum Standards

1. Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details.
2. Know and apply grade-level phonics and word.
3. Recount or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.
4. Questions by the children

Key Terms

Mammal
Carnivore / herbivore
Habitat (classrooms and natural)

Materials

Printed copies of Hedgehog Facts and care sheet:
Lesson for Kids
Picture print outs of hedgehogs for lesson plan
Word cards for key words

Art supplies including:
Pictures of hedgehogs to cut and paste

Glue, Markers, Art paper, paper plates, paint, construction paper

Books to read to class.
Coloring sheet hedgehog
Paper plate hedgehog craft project

Handprint hedgehog
**Care Sheet**

A hedgehog needs the correct food and a proper habitat to live a long, happy, and healthy life. Before bringing him home you should have his cage set up and ready with food available. Below is a list of items you will need to care for your pet.

**Habitat**

A cage that is at least 4 feet long and 2 feet wide. That is the minimum size so go with the biggest cage possible. Multi-level cages are a good way to increase your pet’s space.

Bedding for the bottom of the cage. Bedding made from recycled paper or pulp is a good choice.

A hide area where your pet can go to feel safe and secure.

A small animal litter box.

Litter for the litter box. Litter pellets made from recycled paperwork well and are safe.

A stoppered water bottle. A heavy bowl can be used as an alternative if your hedgehog doesn’t like a water bottle.

A couple of bowls for dry and moist food. The bowls should be attachable to the cage or heavy enough to prevent spilling.

An exercise wheel, preferably one with a solid wheel to prevent possible injury.

A variety of toys and decor to keep your pet entertained. Examples are pipes, tubes, tunnels, ramps, ledges, balls, and bells.

A small animal playpen for when your hedgehog is out of his cage.

**Food**

A dry hedgehog food or cat food that is high in protein and made from meat or chicken.

Canned cat or dog food to supply your pet with moist food. The food should be high in protein and made from meat or chicken.

Fruits and vegetables that can be added to your pet’s diet. Beans, peas, corn, apples, and carrots are some of the foods you can feed your hedgehog in small amounts.

Various treats to add variety to the diet. Treats can be insects like mealworms and crickets, moist dog or cat treats, and cooked food like hamburger, chicken, or eggs.
Cage and supplies
Habitat example.
Pearl, our classroom hedgehog is a year old. Female, Salt and Pepper in color the pictures below are of her, and her cage.

She’s a class favorite. Although they have a bearded dragon and fish as well, Pearl is the favorite.
Pearls cage, two levels, with a wheel, and toys. She likes to sleep in a blanket under one of the levels.