CEMEX CARES

Fishing for At Home Learning

Standards application	SC.3.L.15.1 Classify animals into major groups (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, arthropods, vertebrates and invertebrates, those having live births and those which lay eggs) according to their physical characteristics and behaviors. SC.3.L.17.2 Recognize that plants use energy from the Sun, air, and water to make their own food. SC.4. L. 17.2 Explain that animals, including humans, cannot make their own food and when animals eat plants and other animals, the energy stored in the food source passes to them. SC.4.L.17.3 Trace the flow of energy from the Sun as it transferred along the food chain through producers and consumers.
Purpose	Students will have the experience of catching fish to better understand how energy from the Sun flows through the food chain, the need for aquatic plants to have sunlight to produce their own food, and the physical characteristics of fish.
Materials	fishing poles, bait (worms, bread balls, small pieces of hot dog, etc.) , Pliers, Tackle box, Towel
Background (please read to students)	People fish for both pleasure and food collection. Fishing is a great way to enjoy the environment ,understand the role sunlight plays in aquatic plant food production, and gain a better understanding of the physical characteristics of fish.
Instructions for Activity	1. Instruct students that if they use cane poles the bait should be gently flipped out into the water. When casting a rod and reel, ensure that they can safely cast their line. 2. Explain that when the red and white bobber goes under water, they should lift the fish out of the water. Snatching the line may cause them to lose the fish. 3. Carefully remove fish from hook and release it back in to the lake. 4. If they choose to keep fish, be sure to put in a cooler with ice to keep fish fresh.
Connecting activity to standards application	It is important to have healthy plant vegetation in a lake because plants release oxygen through photosynthesis. The fish then remove the oxygen in the water through their gills. Fish are vertebrate (have a backbone), cold-blooded animals that are affected by the temperature of the water. They are further characterized by scales as a body covering and they lay eggs. If you chose to keep the fish, have a parent open the stomach when cleaning it show you what the fish was eating. Looking at what a fish ate can tell you what is living in the ecosystem of the body of water. The fish must each either plants or other animals because they cannot make their own food, like plants do. Animals are called consumers and plants are called producers.