

2nd Grade Language Arts Extension Teacher's Material

Spiders – ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Spider Facts](#)

[Spiders](#)

[Photographs of Spiders](#)

Quick Idea

Spider Zoo

Divide the class into groups. Have each group choose a spider. Have the students research the spider's physical characteristics such as behavior, habitat, and diet. Provide a large poster board or cardboard for students to build their spider habitat within the "zoo." Each group should have an assigned area to build within their zoo section. Have the students write a one-page report with a picture about the spider. Be sure students label their section of the zoo. Have students take a visual tour of the spider zoo.

Bees - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[The Buzz About Bees](#)

Quick Ideas

Have students pretend they are bees. Encourage visualization activities. Then, ask them to write about how it felt flying through the air and visiting flowers.

Using a Venn diagram, compare and contrast the social habits of honeybees with the social habits of humans or other animals (living in a community, choosing a leader, communication and signals, consuming and producing, and nurturing their young).

Worms - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Worm World](#)

Quick Idea

Create a worm home in the classroom. Collect worms from the outdoors. Create a worm home, as close as possible to the environment from which the worms were found. In a clear plastic bin, layer soil, crumbled leaves, sand, and compost. Place another layer of leaves at the top and add some water. Always keep the soil moist for the worms. Worms need moisture, and if the soil is too dry the worms will not be able to burrow.

Nutrition - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Dole 5 A Day](#)

[Nutrition for Kids](#)

[Just for Kids](#)

[Food Pyramid](#)

Quick Ideas

Have students write one piece of information or quote they learned from watching a commercial about a particular food item. Challenge students to research the information they found about that food item. Did the commercial state a fact?

Hygiene - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Staying Healthy and Clean](#)

[Taking Care of Your Teeth](#)

[The Smile Stones](#)

Quick Ideas

Invite the students to sing Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush, role-playing brushing their teeth, washing their faces, combing their hair, and taking a bath. Have the student section a piece of paper into four sections and draw a picture of each activity.

Fitness - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Staying Healthy & Fit](#)

[Physical Education Lessons](#)

[Physical Education Research](#)

[Fitness Resources](#)

Quick Ideas

Have the students create their own dance routine. Then have each student teach the class his or her routine.

Have students keep a fitness journal. Each day, the students should indicate the type of fitness activity in which they participated and how it made them feel.

Rain Forests - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Rain Forest Rescue](#)

[Passport to the Rain Forest](#)

[National Geographic-Congo Trek](#)

[Rain Forest Heroes](#)

Quick Ideas

Write fictional creation myths about animals in the rain forest. For example, have students write a story explaining how the jaguar got its spots.

Classify the animals of the rainforest by amphibians, arachnids, birds, fish, insects, mammals, and reptiles. Have students make a book showing each type of animal with a picture and a label.

Arctic - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Inuits-History, Beliefs & Images](#)

[Arctic Information](#)

[Arctic Circle](#)

Quick Ideas

Make a model of an igloo using white-powdered laundry detergent and water. Mix one-part water with two parts detergent. It forms messy, white clay. Students can sculpt this into the form of an igloo. Be sure to have plenty of newspaper handy!

Tell students they are going to pretend to be explorers in the Arctic. They will record their journey by keeping an Arctic journal. Begin by having students write about their preparation for the trip. Ask students what they would take on the trip. During each day of the journey, ask them to write about what they saw and experienced.

Deserts - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Desert Directory](#)

[Desert Information](#)

[Desert Facts](#)

Quick Ideas

Have students classify a list of desert animals as mammals, reptiles, or amphibians.

Have students choose one desert animal and complete a chart showing where the animal lives, what it eats, and how it protects itself.

Have students create I Am poems about desert plants or animals. In doing so, students will assume the persona of the plant or animal and write a poem in first person. Each line should begin with I am.

Directions - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Direction Game](#)

Quick Ideas

Have students design their own compass roses.

Have a class treasure hunt. Divide students into treasure hunting teams. Create a map for students to follow using the directional terms north, east, south, and west.

Have students write directions in sentence form from one place to another. For example, the student can write directions from the playground to the classroom using correct directional terms.

Maps and Globes - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Maps and Globes](#)

[National Geographic-Maps & Geography](#)

Quick Idea

Have students vote on a state they would like to visit as part of an imaginary trip. Outline the state on a wall-sized map of the United States. Have a student draw a line from their state to the chosen state for the imaginary trip. Encourage questions: Is this state near or far from us? How can we get there? Will we cross other states to get there? Which ones? How long should we stay? What might we see on our trip? Finally, write a group story by having each student tell one thing about the imaginary trip. After each student has a turn, read the entire story out loud and make a copy to display. As an extension, have students cut out pictures and draw illustrations for the story.

Symbols and Keys - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Olympic Information](#)

[Periodic Table](#)

[The 50 States](#)

Quick Ideas

Display various symbols that relate to the Olympic games. Symbols may include: the Olympic rings, the Olympic torch, and the Olympic medals. Provide students with general background information regarding the concept of the Olympic games and how they originated. Discuss what each Olympic symbol means.

Show the students a periodic table. Explain that the abbreviated words and colors represent elements in the earth. Display several items in conjunction with their symbol. Items may include: quartz, helium, silver, and gold.

Sound - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Sound Show & Tell](#)

[Sound & Noise Experiment](#)

[Secret Bells](#)

Quick Ideas

Have students identify universal sounds like a police whistle, a fire alarm, a car horn, and a fire truck or ambulance siren. Play recordings of these or other universal sounds and have students identify them. Discuss the safety reasons for easily identifiable sounds that tell us how to react.

Have students create their own musical instruments with household items. Provide items like cake pans, rubber bands, straws, dried beans, seeds, macaroni, string, spoons, bottle caps, or any and all other items that are safe to use. Instruct student to create an instrument of sound. Have a jam session when all instruments are completed.

Heat - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[USFA-Kids Place](#)

[Fire Prevention Week](#)

[Energy](#)

Quick Ideas

Have students create a poster advertising fire safety. Each poster should include a catchy slogan about a certain aspect of fire safety.

Get three plastic containers and line one with foil, one with a white plastic bag, and one with a black plastic bag. Fill each with the same amount of water and take them outside. Periodically measure and record the water temperatures in each of the three containers. As a math extension, have students chart and graph the results.

Light - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[A Light Walk](#)

[Crayola Theme-Color & Light Lessons](#)

Quick Ideas

Create a light mobile. Have students draw and cut out different sources of light. They should be relatively large so they can be seen hanging from the ceiling of the class.

Have students (and parents) go home and not use electric lights for an entire day. Then have students share their experience with the class.

Have students work in pairs to measure each other's shadows. They should go outside and stand in the same spot, but at different times of day. Then have students chart their results and draw a conclusion.

Hurricanes - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[FEMA-Hurricanes](#)

[Hurricane Glossary](#)

[Hurricane in a Bottle](#)

Quick Ideas

Organize a class disaster relief drive and collect items for the Red Cross, like blankets and canned goods.

Have students create a hurricane safety kit along with a written explanation as to why preparing for any type of weather is important.

Have students create posters showing some of the precautions that should be taken when preparing for a hurricane.

Tornadoes - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Tornado Information](#)

[Tornado Pictures](#)

[Kidstorm-Sky Diary](#)

[Tornadoes](#)

Quick Ideas

Have students create Venn diagrams to show the similarities and differences between a hurricane and a tornado.

Have students mime the actions of a tornado. Challenge students to interpret the different stages of a developing tornado through mime.

As a class, view clips of the movie, Twister. Choose clips that specifically show the tornado brewing and striking. Have students create word webs of adjectives used to describe what they see and hear.

Volcanoes - ILA Teacher's Material

Quick Ideas

Have students create poems to describe a volcanic eruption. Challenge students to use descriptive words to explain the blast and the effects of the blast.

Using charcoals and pencils have students create pictures of an area surrounding a volcano after it has erupted. In doing so, students should better understand the enormity of ash that can cover surrounding areas when a blast occurs.

Conflict Resolution - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Conflict Resolution-4 Approaches](#)

[Character Education](#)

Quick Ideas

Have students create mood collages with pictures of people from magazines exhibiting various moods with their facial expressions.

Have students maintain mood journals. Instruct them to use words and pictures to describe their moods on different days and at different times. After a period of time, give students time to read their journals, and challenge them to look for patterns and make some conclusions about what makes them feel good and what makes them feel bad.

Following the Law - ILA Teacher's Material

Quick Ideas

In small groups, have students attempt to play a familiar game without any rules. After ample time, have students write individually (in their journals) about how they felt while playing the game.

Have students create mobiles showing the different types of rules and laws by which they must abide. Suggest the following categories: home, school, government. Students should use pictures, words, and any other available art supplies to create their mobiles.

Goods and Services - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Economic Education](#)

Quick Ideas

Have students write letters to the companies that sell the products or services they either strongly like or dislike. Challenge students to clearly state their opinions about the product or service and support it with details.

Have each student invent an original good or service to promote. Have students create graphic organizers to explain the advantages of their good or service. Students can also create posters to advertise their original good or service.

Consumers and Producers - ILA Teacher's Material

Web Links

[Be a Consumer Hero](#)

[Don't Buy It](#)

Quick Ideas

Have students design a new exterior label or package for one of their favorite goods. Challenge students to make the good appealing to people in their age group.

View a movie that demonstrates greed and its harmful effects (suggestion: Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory). Have students respond to the characters in the movie by keeping track of the ones they like and the ones they do not like. Have them keep track of the actions of the characters, and draw conclusions about why they like some and dislike others. Then, further discuss the concept of greed as a class.