

Peeing on My Leg: The Things Animals Do to Adapt to Their Environments

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What makes something unique? This is a question that students investigate in one of our third grade reading units. During this unit, students encounter informational text that introduces them to places on Earth with extreme conditions, the highest point, the deepest valley, the hottest desert, the coldest place on Earth. My students enjoy learning about these “est” places and always want to dive deeper into the topic. I am building on their interest to create this unit that will enable my students to engage in informational text and investigate a wide variety of extreme environments. This cross-curricular unit will focus on Common Core State Standards for Reading/ELA as well as Next Generation Science Standards. Students will research a place on Earth that is considered extreme. They will learn about the climate and the organisms that inhabit these places. We will then form groups where students will teach their classmates about their research. This unit was designed for a third grade classroom, however could be used in a large span of grades.