

Groundhog's Feast

Standards of Learning

English: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.7, 1.8, 1.13, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.6, 2.7, 2.12, 3.1, 3.4, 3.9, 4.1, 4.7, 5.1, 5.7

Objective

The student will

- use descriptive words to create an invitation to Groundhog's Thanksgiving dinner.

Materials

- How Groundhog's Garden Grew, by Lynne Cherry
- markers/crayons
- paper

Background Knowledge

How Groundhog's Garden Grew is a beautifully illustrated book that details many aspects of gardening, from seed gathering to sprouting to harvesting. Additionally, it ends with a lesson on the importance of sharing one's good fortunes with others when Squirrel suggests that Groundhog invite his friends over for Thanksgiving dinner to share his harvest.

Procedure

1. Read How Groundhog's Garden Grew to the students.
2. Pause at the end and be sure to show the last picture where Groundhog and his friends are enjoying Thanksgiving dinner. Discuss how Groundhog exhibited generosity by sharing the food from his garden. Prompt students to give examples of how they can share with others.
3. While looking at the picture, ask students to brainstorm words and phrases to describe Groundhog's Thanksgiving dinner. Record these on the board.
4. Tell students that they are to create an invitation to Groundhog's dinner. The invitation needs to be in the form of a letter and should describe what they will be enjoying.
5. Encourage students to illustrate their invitations.
6. Students may share their invitations with the class.

Extension

Have your own classroom feast! Bring in some of the vegetables that were mentioned in the book and make a large pot of soup for students to try. Or cut them up and have students try them with a bit of vegetable dip.

This book may be used for "Reader's Theater." Depending on grade level, have students create a script or provide them with one. Then students act out the various scenes from the book.

