

Concept Learning and Creature Cards

- This is a method for helping children learn concepts that encourage them to make observations, share those observations with others, and then formulate a generalization.
- The teacher provides examples and nonexamples of the concept and encourages each child to identify characteristics that distinguish examples from nonexamples.
- The inclusion of both examples and nonexamples is essential so the child will identify and then test characteristics related to the concept.
- Since this method encourages children to express their own definitions, the method is useful for introducing a concept to children before they encounter it formally.
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Format for a Creature Card

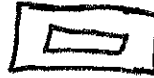
<p>Creature Card</p> <p>These are _____:</p> <p>These are not _____:</p> <p>Which of these are _____? a. b. c.</p> <p>a. b. c.</p> <p>Draw a _____:</p> <p>What is a _____?</p>
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Sample Creature Cards

These are curves:



These are not curves:



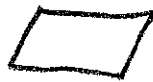
Which of these are curves? a. b. c.



Draw a curve:

What is a curve?

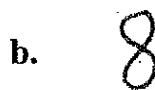
These are simple curves:



These are not simple curves:



Which of these are simple curves? a. b. c.



Draw a simple curve:

What is a simple curve?

These are closed curves:



These are not closed curves:



Which of these are closed curves? a. b. c.



Draw a closed curve:

What is a closed curve?

These are simple closed curves:



These are not simple closed curves:



Which of these are simple closed curves? a. b. c.



Draw a simple closed curve:

What is a simple closed curve?