

The Number Hunt: What the Book Counted and Why A Platypus, Probably - Grade 1 - Short lesson

TIME

OBJECTIVE

PRODUCT

10 minutes Gather number facts from the book and organize each number with what it measures. A small fact file with sourced number cards grouped under meaningful headings. Essential question: What do the book's numbers tell us about the platypus?

Materials

- The book
- Paper and pencil
- Number cards Text to mark
- Number-rich pages - body weight, dive time, burrows, tunnel length, travel, temperature, and age

Lesson sequence

1 The hunt - 5 min Pairs find several numbers in the book and card each with what it measures. A bare number does not count as a fact. 2 Invent the headings and read the portrait - 5 min Group the cards under headings such as body, food, home, and time. Read one fact from each group and explain what the organized numbers add to the portrait of the animal.

Teacher key

Accept any accurate number paired with the correct measure and page/source location. The important distinction is number + what it measures, not number alone. Support & extension

Support:

Provide preselected number cards and have students match each to one of two possible measures before grouping them. Extension: Compare two number facts and explain what new idea becomes visible only when they are considered together.

Assessment

- Finds accurate numbers from the book
- Pairs each number with what it measures
- Groups facts under sensible headings
- Explains at least one idea the organized numbers reveal

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