



Top Speed Tournament

Category: Group Activity

Series: Super-Incredible Animals (12 Super-Fast Animals You Need to Know)

Supplies

Photos of the 12 animals included in *12 Super-Fast Animals You Need to Know*, additional photos of animals if more than 12 students are participating in activity, poster board, markers, hat or bag, tape, one or multiple copies of *12 Super-Fast Animals You Need to Know*, Internet access for additional research or access to 12StoryLibrary.com

Prep

Print and cut out the photos of the animals, making sure you have one animal for each student. Make a list of all animals' top speeds in miles per hour (mph) to use as your key. (Most can be found in the book or at www.speedofanimals.com.) Put all the photos in a hat or bag. Draw a March Madness tournament-style bracket (tree diagram) on the poster board. Randomly assign students' names to the outside spots so that two students face off against each other down the entire bracket with winners working their way towards the center, single elimination style.

Directions

Have each student draw an animal from the hat or bag and stick their animal to the spot next to their name on the bracket. Have each student look up their animal's top speed in mph in the *Super-Fast Animals* book or by using additional resources. Note: Some animal speeds might need to be converted to a "feels like" speed or average speed. Ex. the mite. Have each student write the top speed next to their animal. For each pairing, the animal with the top speed moves forward to the next round on the bracket. Have students work their way through the bracket until only one animal is left. If there is a tie, play rock-paper-scissors to see who advances.

Evaluation

Were the students able to find their animals' top speeds? Are the top speeds in mph? Did they fill out the bracket properly? Was the fastest animal obvious or surprising? Were there any animals that had the same speed? RI 5.7

Purpose

To help students quickly and accurately locate information using multiple print and digital sources. To compare different objects to determine greater than or less than values.