

SCORE IT!

Standards and Deep Thinking

My picture shows my math problem and my solution!

In my multi-age classroom, I design learning experiences that help young people think about content in different ways. When I look at a standard, I ask myself:...

...how many different ways can students show me they understand?

Since so much of student communication is text-based, it's easy to see each standard as requiring a written response. However if you examine the standards with an open mind, you'll see many opportunities to incorporate graphic elements.

I need your help!

Animals are arriving for the new children's zoo. How do you think they should be organized?

Grade 3

No one ever visits the arthropods exhibit. Let's help people see how important these creatures are by showing how they are related to other living things.

Grade 6

Fungi are related in interesting ways. We need a graphic for visitors showing these relationships and their connection to other living things at the zoo.

Grade 11

Taranula

eat

eat

Science Standard 7. Understands biological evolution and the diversity of life.

Grades 3-5. Knows different ways in which living things can be grouped.

Grades 6-8. Knows ways in which living things can be classified.

Grades 9-12. Knows how organisms are classified into a hierarchy of groups and subgroups based on similarities that reflect their evolutionary relationships. ¹

Regardless of the grade level, young people need to be able to do more than answer basic multiple choice questions. To show their understanding, they need to apply their knowledge and skills to authentic situations.