

TRI-COUNTY CHARTER SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP
Performance Assessment

Our New Pet

Grade Level: 3rd to 4th Grade

Florida Sunshine State Standards Addressed:

LA.A.2.2.1: Reads text and determines the main idea or essential message, identifies relevant supporting details and facts, and arranges events in chronological order.

SS.B.1.2.1: Uses maps, globes, charts, graphs, map keys, and symbols to gather data and draw conclusions.

MA.A.3.2.3: Adds, subtracts, and multiplies whole numbers, decimals, and fractions including mixed numbers and divides whole numbers to solve real world problems using appropriate methods of computing such as mental mathematics, paper and pencil, and calculator.

Authors: Terry Casler

School: Charter School of Excellence, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Phone and Email: 954-522-2997

Information for the Teacher

Task Description:

Task 1 – The students will find perimeter and create a map to house the cheetah.

Task 2 – The students will estimate and calculate prices from a supply list.

Task 3 - The students will read an information article and answer questions.

Task 4 – The students will construct the cheetah habitat using popsicle sticks and glue.

Task 5 - The students will write an expository paper reflecting on what they have learned.

Required Materials:

Large, unlined paper, rulers, pencils, crayons, markers, colored pencils, copies of supply lists, copies of article and questions, glue, popsicle sticks, construction paper, and white lined paper.

Our New Pet

Assessment Scenario for Students

Imagine that your school was given a cheetah cub as a school mascot until the Metro Zoo can provide a permanent home for it. In order to accommodate the needs for the new visitor, a habitat must be provided. You will need to purchase the necessary supplies to build a fence and to feed the cub.

Can you help this needy cub by providing a comfortable home and tend to its daily needs?

Task 1: Making a Blueprint

Before you begin constructing the habitat, you need to find out the perimeter of the boundaries.

On a blank piece of paper, measure and map out your plans for the new Mascot's home, showing its location on campus. Remember, each inch represents one foot. You will also need to construct a map legend, so be sure to leave enough room.

Scoring Guide – Task 1

4 Exemplary

- Criteria for the proficient category have been successfully completed.
 - More advanced work was completed. For example:
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3 Proficient

- The student correctly measures the perimeter.
- The student has an accurate map legend.
- The map represents an appropriate scale.

2 Progressing

- One part of the task is not completed correctly.
- More work is needed.

1 Not meeting the standard(s)

- Two or more parts of the task are not completed correctly.
- The task should be repeated.

Task 2: The Supplies

It's now time to gather all of the necessary materials in order to build your cub's habitat.

Your group will be given \$100.00 to purchase supplies. Before you begin shopping, you need to estimate how much money you will spend. Use the price list to help you. Then find out the actual cost. How much change will you receive?

Supply Price List

Logs (popsicle sticks)	\$ 1.10 per log
Adhesive (glue)	\$ 5.95 per gallon
Plants	\$ 2.79 per plant
Trees	\$ 4.55 per tree
Bowls	\$ 2.50 per bowl
Food	\$ 5.00 per pound

Task 2: Scoring Guide

4 Exemplary:

- Criteria for the proficient category has been successfully completed.
 - More advanced work was completed. For example, estimates were within within \$10.00 of actual costs, final total was accurate, and exact change was stated.
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3 Proficient:

- The student will be able to estimate expenses within a reasonable range.
- The student will be able to calculate expenses within \$ 2.00.
- The student will be able to subtract to find correct change.

2 Progressing:

- One part of the task is not completed correctly.
- More work is needed.

1 Not meeting the standard(s):

- Two or more parts of the task are not completed correctly.
- The task should be repeated.

Task 3: Learning about Cheetahs

In order to know how to take proper care of your new pet, you need to do some research on cheetahs.

Read the information article and answer the questions about what you have read. Keep in mind information that can help you create a better habitat. Take notes, because your cheetah's life depends on it.

All About Cheetahs

The word, cheetah, comes from the Hindu word "chita," meaning spotted one. Cheetahs are unique among the cat world in that they have long thin legs, a delicate skull, and a relatively slight build. Their tawny pelts are covered with round black spots of varying sizes. They also have unique markings that look like tear-tracks reaching from the corners of their eyes to the corners of their mouths. The fur on the spots tends to be more smooth and silky than the surrounding fur, which is more coarse than on most cats. Cheetahs also have long, thick tails with spots fading into stripes at its white tip. They have a large chest, narrow waist with long legs and are slim, but well muscled. The size of adult cheetahs range in size from 86 to 143 pounds. Their head and body are 44 to 53 inches long and their tail is from 26 to 33 inches long.

Cheetahs are the fastest land animals, reaching speeds of over 60 miles per hour, but only in short bursts of 300 yards or less. There are seven recognized subspecies of cheetah, distinguished by subtle differences in their coats. Even so, these subspecies of cheetahs are nearly genetically identical, having more genetic similarity than humans in the same family.

Cheetahs are known for their beauty and their speed, once serving as symbols of nobility. Cheetahs were used by the Pharaohs, royalty in Asia and even by the emperor Charlemagne for hunting other animals and as symbols of nobility. Even so, information about their behavior and ecology has been documented only recently, and many things still remain a mystery about this beautiful cat.

Cheetahs are originally from Africa and the Middle East. They are carnivores, and Thompson's Gazelle is the wild cheetah's food of choice. Cheetahs will also eat Impala, hares and wildebeest calves. Only half of cheetahs' hunts are successful. Cheetahs hunt by day, stalking their prey to within about 33 feet, then chasing it. The average chase lasts 20 seconds; few last more than a minute.

Female cheetah usually stick to themselves, but are not territorial. Mothers with cubs sometimes stay in close proximity to each other. Adult male littermates sometimes stick together to form "coalition," but unrelated males may also sometimes form groups to defend larger territories. The average cheetah litter is 3 to 5 cubs. Newborn cubs weigh 5.25 to 10.5 ounces and have light gray, wooly coat that turns into its adult colors by four months.

Mother cheetahs sometimes have to leave their cubs alone for up to 48 hours to hunt for food. Cubs are brought out of their hidden den at six to eight weeks, and accompany their mother from then on. 90 percent of cubs born in the Serengeti National Park die before reaching 3 months of age. Of these deaths, more than 50 percent are caused by predation by other animals, such as lions, hyenas, jackals and birds of prey. Cubs are weaned at six months, and leave their mother at about 13 to 20 months, but siblings of ten remain with each other for several more months.

As you can see, cheetahs are more than just the world's fastest land animal.

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: After reading the information story about cheetahs, answer the following questions. Circle your answers.

1. Locate the word 'tawny' in the first paragraph. What is the best meaning?
 - a. skinny
 - b. brownish color
 - c. warm
 - d. to run
2. What are cheetahs known for?
 - a. long legs and tawny pelts
 - b. speed and hunting ability
 - c. size and speed
 - d. beauty and speed
3. When are cubs brought out of their dens?
 - a. no more than two months
 - b. no less than two months
 - c. one month
 - d. 6-8 months
4. Which sentence best states the main idea of the passage?
 - a. Cheetahs are originally from Africa and the Middle East.
 - b. There are seven recognized subspecies of cheetahs.
 - c. Cheetahs are more than just the world's fastest land animal.
 - d. The word cheetah comes from the Hindu word "chita."
5. Write down five facts that you have learned about cheetahs.

Task 3: Scoring Guide

4 Exemplary:

- Criteria for the proficient category have been successfully completed.
 - The student answers the questions with 100% accuracy.
 - More advanced work is completed. For example, the notes are detailed and are in outline format.
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3 Proficient:

- The student is able to read article and answer cooperating questions with 90% accuracy.
- The student displays proper note taking strategies.

2 Progressing:

- One part of the task is not completed correctly.
- More work is needed.

1 Not meeting the standard(s):

- Two or more parts of the task are not completed correctly.
- The task should be repeated.

Task 4: Creating the Habitat

Now you have everything you need to begin constructing your cheetah's habitat.

First, use the Popsicle sticks and glue to make a fence. Next, add things to replicate its natural environment, such as leaves, plants, and rocks. Make sure you provide enough food and water. Last but not least, give your cheetah a name, and create a sign to hang on the fence.

Task 4: Scoring Guide

4 Exemplary:

- Criteria for the proficient category have been successfully completed.
 - The student's habitat has additional items that were not required or suggested.
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3 Proficient:

- The student constructs the cheetah's habitat using the appropriate materials.
- The student's habitat is representative of a cheetah's natural environment.
- The student includes food and water.
- The student creates a sign displaying the cheetah's new name.

2 Progressing:

- One part of the task is not completed correctly.
- More work is needed.

1 Not meeting the standard(s):

- Two or more parts of the task are not completed correctly.
- The task should be repeated.

Task 5: Write About It

Use this expository writing prompt to create a five paragraph paper about the many things you have learned about your cheetah.

"There are many things that are essential for the survival of a cheetah... "

Task 5: Scoring Guide

4 Exemplary:

- Criteria for the proficient category have been successfully completed.
 - Grammar and syntax exceed 80% accuracy.
 - Students use more advanced vocabulary and examples.
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3 Proficient:

- Students created five paragraph expository paper.
- Grammar and syntax are 80% accurate.
- The paper includes facts and information about the cheetah.

2 Progressing:

- Paper is missing one or more paragraphs.
- Grammar and syntax are below grade level.
- More work is needed.

1 Not meeting the standard(s):

- Two or more parts of the task are not completed correctly.
- The task should be repeated.