Reptile Rally

Pre-Program Activity

Grades 6-8

Objective: Students will compare mythical creatures to real reptiles.

Sunshine State Standards:
- **SC.6.L.15.1** Analyze and describe how and why organisms are classified according to shared characteristics with emphasis on the Linnaean system combined with the concept of Domains.
- **LA.6.4.2.1** The student will write in a variety of informational/expository forms (e.g., summaries, procedures, instructions, experiments, rubrics, how-to manuals, assembly instructions).
- **SC.7.L.17.2** Compare and contrast the relationships among organisms such as mutualism, predation, parasitism, competition, and commensalism.
- **LA.7.4.2.1** The student will write in a variety of informational/expository forms (e.g., summaries, procedures, instructions, experiments, rubrics, how-to manuals, assembly instructions).
- **SC.8.N.4.1** Explain that science is one of the processes that can be used to inform decision making at the community, state, national, and international levels.
- **LA.8.4.2.1** The student will write in a variety of informational/expository forms (e.g., summaries, procedures, instructions, experiments, rubrics, how-to manuals, assembly instructions).

Overview: Students make a poster that shows a mythical creature and a real reptile.

Materials:
- List of mythical creatures and poster guide
- Internet and/or library access
- Large sheets of paper or posterboard
- Pencils, crayons or markers

Procedure:
- Ask students to name some legendary/mythological creatures. Point out that many of these creatures have features that are similar to real animals.
- Explain to the class that they are going to be examining some mythical creatures that resemble reptiles. Put students into small groups and assign each group one of the creatures.
- Give each group a large sheet of paper and have them divide it into four boxes.
- Allow students time to research their creature and fill in the boxes on their poster according to the poster guide.
- Have each group share their poster with the rest of the class.