The Scientific Name Game

Classroom Program for Grades 6 – 8

Program Description: When two different things share the same common name all sorts of confusion can occur. In this program, students will see how scientists use Greek and Latin root words to create unique binomial names. Finishing off with a game and creating new names really helps this dive into etymology make a big splash for students.

Lesson: Learn why scientific names are created and how they are used as tools in science.

Conservation Message: Human beings are an integral part of all ecosystems.

Curriculum Objectives:

Tennessee students will apply the following **Science Curriculum Performance Indicators**:

- Students will determine which organisms are likely to survive in a particular environment.
- Students will recognize various forms of evidence which indicate that life forms have changed over time.
- Students will identify characteristics used by scientists to classify organisms into different categories.

Georgia students will apply the following **Science Performance Standards**:

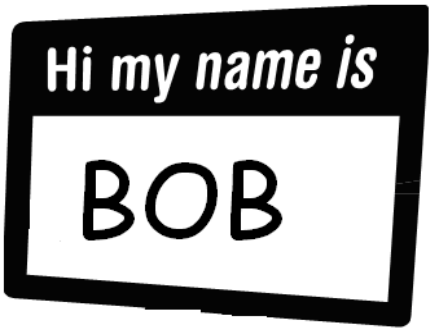
- Students will investigate the diversity of living organisms and how they can be compared scientifically.
- Students will examine the evolution of living organisms through inherited characteristics that promote survival of organisms and the survival of successive generations of their offspring.
- Students will recognize how biological traits are passed on to successive generations.

Alabama students will apply the following **Science Course of Study Content Standards**:

- Students will describe organisms in the six-kingdom classification system by their characteristics. Recognizing genus and species as components of a scientific name.
- Students will identify major differences between plants and animals, including internal structures, external structures, methods of locomotion, methods of reproduction, and stages of development.
- Students will describe evidence of species variation due to climate, changing landforms, interspecies interaction, and genetic mutation.

Additionally, all students will apply the following **National Science Education Content Standards:**

- Develop understanding of reproduction and heredity
- Develop understanding of diversity and adaptations of organisms
- Develop understanding of science and technology in society



Create Your Own Creature

The Aquarium has just received a shipment of four newly described species. Help us create an identifying sign for each. Read the scientific name for each animal, then use the list of roots to decide what charicteristics each animal might possess. Use these discriptions as inspiration to draw what this creature looks like in the box above the name. Finally, fill in the common name line with a name created by you.

List of common roots and meanings:

Greek	Latin
A: without	Bi: two
Ali: cat	Cephalos: head
Chloros: green	Icthy: fish
Macros: long	Labi: lip
Odon: teeth	Maximus: large
Omalos: flat, level	Milli: thousand
Pod: foot	Olfacto: smell
Pteron: wings	Pedia: foot

Scientific Name: *Apod icthyolfact*

Common Name:_____

Scientific Name: *Omaloali bicephalo*

Common Name:_____

Scientific Name: *Macropteron millipedia*

Common Name:_____

Scientific Name: *Chlorodon labimaximus*

Common Name:_____