



Mystery Picture

Curiosity & Creativity:

Asking “Why?” and “Why not?” about the world around you. Curiosity & Creativity encourages students to use their imaginations and broaden their views. This activity engages students and invites them to think creatively.

Objective:

Students will be able to inspect a “mystery picture” and theorize on what it could be.

Materials:

Pictures of food, animals, objects that you will progressively zoom in on or zoom out.

Steps:

- Inform students that you are going to present a mystery picture to the class at the beginning of the week. You will need to create or download an extremely close up or far away picture ahead of time.
- You will show the picture to the students for one minute for a period of four or five days.
- Each day, ask students to write down their guesses about what the picture is. Students should explain their guesses. You should provide a clue about the mystery picture. For example, on one day the clue might be that the picture is of a living thing and on day two the clue might be that the picture is of a mammal.
- Share the original picture on the last day of the week. Encourage students to research the subject of the picture.
- After students understand the process, allow students to pick out a mystery picture and lead the activity.

Personal Reflection:

- How did this activity spark your curiosity?
- What are you curious about learning?

Group Reflection:

As a class, brainstorm action steps that students can take to increase their Curiosity & Creativity. Examples can be to:

- explore the outdoors;
- write a poem or short story just for fun;
- take an interesting photograph;
- ask ten questions every day this week;
- find a new app that allows you to be creative;
- build a fort;
- write a song;
- challenge yourself to ask more questions; or
- with an adult, discover how something mechanical works.

Extended Learning:

Have students create a picture collage that expresses curiosity. Include pictures of things you wonder about. Use PicCollage, Pic Stitch, or another photo app. If technology is not available, have students create a paper picture collage using such items as paper or magazines.