

**Title:** Antonym Comparison of Animals and Me

**Subject:** Language Arts

**Grade:** 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 45 minutes, plus research time

**Objectives:** Students will understand antonyms and how they're used for binary comparison by researching an animal and making connections to themselves..

**Illinois State Standards and Objectives:**

**1.A.2a** Read and comprehend unfamiliar words using root words, synonyms, antonyms, word origins and derivations.

**1.A.2b** Clarify word meaning using context clues and a variety of resources including glossaries, dictionaries, and thesauruses.

**Materials**

Pictures of many different types of animal (you may use the photos on the Wilderness Classroom web site or provide your own)

**Method:**

Introduce what an antonym is, and what purpose antonyms serve in the English language. As a large group develop a list of antonyms. A quick way to do this is to re-write newspaper headlines using antonyms.

Next, create a list of words that describe certain animals. Show the photo and have students use descriptive that describe the animal's appearance, behavior, habits, and habitats.

After you complete a list of descriptive words, have students generate antonyms for each part of the list.

Have students categorize the words as those that would describe the animal, themselves, or both.