INTERPRETING ILLUSTRATIONS LESSON PLAN

FOOD CHAIN & SUN HEADBAND

"Food Chain" by the Banana Slug String Band

MATERIALS NEEDED - Per Student

- [ ] 9 Poster board strips/links (provided by teachers)
- [ ] 1 Poster board headband (provided by teachers)
- [ ] Craft Boxes
- [ ] 1 Set of construction paper - 1 red, 1 yellow, & 1 orange (provided by teachers)
- [ ] Glue (provided by teachers)
- [ ] Stapler & Staples

CHAINS

1. There are 9 chain links total for each student. Each student will create a chain representing a food web from Ohio. Each chain will contain 4 parts: a Producer, Consumer, Predator, and Decomposer in that order.

2. Hand out 4 links to students and have them write their name on each of them. Also have them write a part of the food chain and their choice of animal or plant on each link. Example: Producer-'algae' on one, Consumer-'duck' on another, Predator –' ___ ', and Decomposer- ' ___ '. You keep the rest of the links and they will stay blank.

3. As soon as you are able, either before the program or perhaps when they are writing their names on the links, you and the teacher begin stapling as fast as you can. All blank extra links need to be stapled into a circle with the pointy parts of the staple facing outward. Keep all circled blank links on a desk or table so they are easy to get to when the kids start to need them.

4. When each student finishes writing on their food chain links, have them bring the links up to you or the teacher (while you are stapling) to get the food chain approved. Make sure the order makes sense, that the clover is really a producer, etc. Once their food chain is okay, they can set the links on their desk and go into the hall to find craft materials to make the PRODUCER first. They should only be working on one link at a time.

5. When each student finishes their producer link, have them bring it up to you so you can staple it through 2 blank links forming a circle (while they wait). One of the blank links will be for their wrist. The other will be connected to the next link in the food chain. Hand it back to them and have them go work on the PRIMARY CONSUMER link.

6. When they are finished, they will bring their new link and their chain back to you. You will staple it in a circle around the blank link attached to the producer and an extra blank link. Before stapling, make sure the food chain will read from left to right and that they are both right-side-up.   Hand it back, and send them to make their SECONDARY CONSUMER. Each time they come up, staple the new link in order with an extra blank link on the end. Eventually, the blank link after the DECOMPOSER will be the link for the other wrist.

HEADBAND

1. Have students make a large sun with the red, orange, and yellow construction paper and glue it to the middle of their headband. You and the teacher will reinforce this with a staple.

2. Have the students put their name on the inside of the headband and decorate the outside with the words to the chorus: Predator and prey, producers and decay are in the food chain; chain, chain.

3. You and the teacher will go around to measure and staple the headbands around each student's head. Make sure the pointy parts of the staples are facing out.