

Objective

By the end of this lesson, Sammi will understand the basic needs of snails, how to care for them, and the important role they play in the ecosystem. Sammi will also learn fun facts about snails and how to observe them in a safe and caring way.

Materials and Prep

- Notebook and pencil for notes
- A small container or jar for observing snails
- Access to a garden or park to find snails
- Water for keeping snails moist
- Fresh vegetables or fruits (like lettuce or cucumber) for feeding snails

Before the lesson, make sure to find a safe outdoor area where snails can be found. Discuss with Sammi the importance of being gentle with the snails and returning them to their habitat after observing.

Activities

- **Snail Hunt:** Sammi can go outside to search for snails in the garden or park. Encourage her to look under leaves, rocks, or in damp areas. This will help her understand where snails like to live.
- **Observation Journal:** Once Sammi finds a snail, she can observe its behavior and appearance. Have her write down her observations in her notebook, including the snail's size, color, and movement.
- **Feeding Time:** Sammi can prepare a small feeding area by placing fresh vegetables or fruits in the container. She can observe how the snail reacts to the food and how it eats.
- **Fun Facts Sharing:** After learning about snails, Sammi can create a mini-presentation where she shares her favorite facts about snails with family members. This will help reinforce her learning.

Talking Points

- "Did you know that snails have a special slime that helps them move? It's like their own superpower!"
- "Snails are very important for our gardens! They help break down dead plants and return nutrients to the soil."
- "How do you think a snail feels when it's out of its shell? It must feel very exposed and needs to stay moist!"
- "What do you think happens to snails when it rains? They come out to play! Rain makes the ground soft and helps them move around."
- "Can you guess how long a snail can live? Some can live for 5 to 10 years! That's a long time for such a tiny creature!"