

## Objective

By the end of this lesson, Josiah will understand the basic classification of living things, including the eight levels: Domain, Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, and Species. He will be able to identify examples from each classification and explain why they belong to those categories.

## Materials and Prep

- Paper and colored pencils or crayons
- Printed pictures of different animals and plants (if available)
- A large poster board for a classification chart
- Space to work comfortably

Before the lesson, it may be helpful to review some basic examples of animals and plants that Josiah is familiar with, so he can relate them to the classification system.

## Activities

- **Classification Chart Creation:**

Josiah will create a large poster board chart where he can draw and categorize different living things. He will label each section with the classification levels and place examples in the correct spots.

- **Animal and Plant Match Game:**

Using printed pictures (or drawings), Josiah will match animals and plants to their correct classification. This can be a fun game where he can explain his choices!

- **Classification Storytime:**

Josiah can pick his favorite animal or plant and create a short story about its classification. He can describe where it fits in the classification system and why it's special.

## Talking Points

- "Did you know that scientists have a special way to organize all living things? It's called 'classification'!"
- "We start with the biggest group called the 'Domain'. Can you guess how many domains there are?"
- "Next, we have 'Kingdom'. This is where we group things like animals and plants. What do you think is the biggest kingdom?"
- "Then we go smaller to 'Phylum'. For example, all animals with a backbone belong to the same phylum. Can you name any animals with backbones?"
- "After that is 'Class'. This is even smaller! For example, mammals are a class. Do you know any mammals?"
- "Finally, we get to 'Species'. This is the smallest group! It's like having a special name for each kind of animal or plant. Can you think of a species you know?"