

Frogs: Art, Writing, and a Splash of Spanish!

Lesson Activities:

Part 1: Frog Exploration & Research (Approx. 30 minutes)

Goal: Discover different types of frogs and choose one to focus on.

- Begin by discussing what you already know and like about frogs. What makes them interesting?
- Use books or safe internet resources (like National Geographic Kids, San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance website, or Kiddle) to research different types of frogs. Look for frogs with interesting colors, features, or habitats.
- Choose **one** frog species that you find particularly fascinating.
- Note down 3-5 interesting facts about your chosen frog (e.g., where it lives, what it eats, unique features like color, size, sound).

Part 2: ¡Hablemos de Ranas! (Let's Talk Frogs in Spanish!) (Approx. 20 minutes)

Goal: Learn basic Spanish vocabulary related to frogs.

- Introduce the following Spanish words. Practice saying them aloud:
- **La rana** (lah RRAH-nah) - The frog
- **Verde** (BEHR-deh) - Green
- **Salta** (SAHL-tah) - Jumps / It jumps
- **El agua** (el AH-gwah) - The water
- **La hoja** (lah OH-hah) - The leaf
- **Los ojos** (lohs OH-hohs) - The eyes
- **Pequeño/Pequeña** (peh-KEH-nyoh / peh-KEH-nyah) - Small
- Try making simple sentences, like "La rana es verde" (The frog is green) or "La rana salta en el agua" (The frog jumps in the water).

Part 3: Descriptive Writing (Approx. 25 minutes)

Goal: Write a paragraph describing your chosen frog.

- Using the facts you gathered and looking at pictures of your frog, write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences).
- Focus on using descriptive words (adjectives). What does it look like? What colors do you see? Is it big or small (*grande* or *pequeño*)? Where does it live? What does it do (e.g., *salta*)?
- Try to include at least one or two of the Spanish words you learned (e.g., "This *rana* lives near *el agua*"). Underline the Spanish words used.
- Read your paragraph aloud to check how it sounds.

Part 4: Froggy Artwork (Approx. 45-60 minutes)

Goal: Create a visual representation of your chosen frog.

- Using your art supplies (paper, pencils, crayons, markers, or paints), create a picture of your chosen frog.
- Try to include its habitat (e.g., sitting on *una hoja*, near *el agua*).

- Pay attention to the details you noticed during research – its colors, patterns, eye shape (*los ojos!*).
- Have fun and be creative!

Part 5: Show and Tell (¡Muestra y Cuenta!) (Approx. 10 minutes)

Goal: Share your work and practice Spanish.

- Present your artwork.
- Read your descriptive paragraph aloud.
- Point to features on your artwork and try using the Spanish words you learned (e.g., "Aquí está la rana. Es verde." - Here is the frog. It's green. "Estos son los ojos." - These are the eyes. "Salta!" - It jumps!).

Wrap-up:

Briefly discuss what was learned: interesting frog facts, new Spanish words, how art and writing can describe the same thing in different ways. What was the most fun part?

Possible Extensions/Differentiation:

- **Challenge:** Research the frog's life cycle or conservation status. Write a longer story or poem instead of a paragraph. Learn more complex Spanish phrases related to the frog's actions or habitat. Create a diorama instead of a drawing.
- **Support:** Provide pre-selected frog images and fact sheets. Use sentence starters for the paragraph (e.g., "My frog is called..."; "It is [color]..."; "It lives..."). Provide a frog outline to color instead of free-hand drawing. Focus on learning 3-4 Spanish words instead of 5-7.