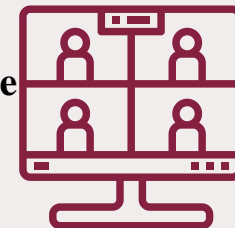




ON THE HUNT:

Engaging Breakout Rooms to Teach Wildlife Career Development Event Contest Online



Introduction:

- Academics faced new challenges while adjusting to virtual learning.
- The goal of this innovative idea is to develop an activity and recommendations to support instruction for teaching components of the wildlife Career Development Event (CDE).

How It Works:

- Using Zoom or other online delivery platform, present a PowerPoint with 10–15 different wildlife species.
- After reviewing all species, split the class into teams of 3–4 students and assign them to different breakout rooms.
- Students are tasked to go on a “virtual hunt” to:
 - 1) Identify the scientific name of the species.
 - 2) Discover the gestation period or incubation time.
 - 3) Draw the tracks of each species.
- To increase student engagement in the breakout rooms, encourage students to work together to complete the hunt.

Results:

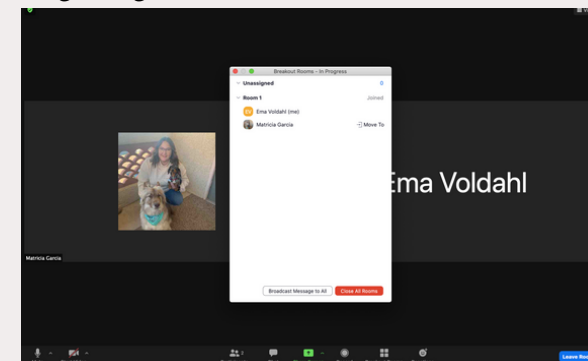
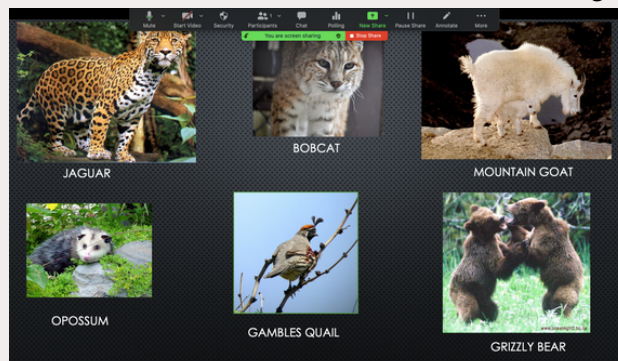
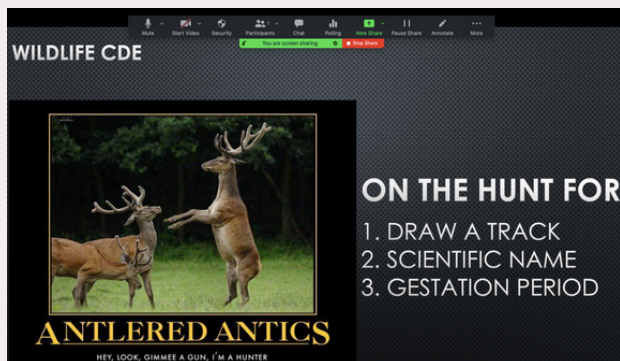
- Students gave positive feedback regarding how the activity increased engagement with peers.
- Some struggles were had with remembering key characteristics of animals and tasks prior to joining breakout rooms.
- Having clearer instructions and a practice trial before breakout rooms can help with a smoother transition into the activity.

Future Plans/Advice:

- Because breakout rooms engage participant-driven instruction, trust and clear expectations must be set regarding breakout room etiquette.
- Provide instructions for the breakout rooms in multiple places.
- Adjust the time limit and number of animals to identify based on the students’ exposure and experience with wildlife.

Cost/Resources Needed:

- Students will need access to online platforms.
- Instructors will prepare materials using PowerPoint and rules from the National FFA Organization regarding the wildlife CDE.



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