

Pandas 3-5

By: Shirley Rose

Lesson

The panda, with its distinctive black & white coat, is adored by the world & considered a national treasure in China. Pandas have been endangered mainly due to habitat loss. There has been a slight increase in their population, and they have been declared still vulnerable, & we should work to protect them. Humans have cleared much of the bamboo forests that pandas need to survive. Pandas live mainly in temperate forests high in the mountains of southwest China, where they subsist almost entirely on bamboo. They must eat around 26 to 84 pounds of it every day, depending on what part of the bamboo they are eating. They use their enlarged wrist bones that function as opposable thumbs. If a bamboo forest is cleared away, then the pandas' food source is gone. Relocating to another forest is often impossible, as forests today have become separated from one another, thanks to human cities & towns. Without access to a steady source of bamboo, pandas whose forests are cleared will perish from starvation. Wild pandas once roamed bamboo forests in China, Vietnam, Laos & Burma. Today, wild pandas are found only in China, & in far fewer numbers than ever before. Scientists estimate that there are only around 1,800 wild pandas alive today.



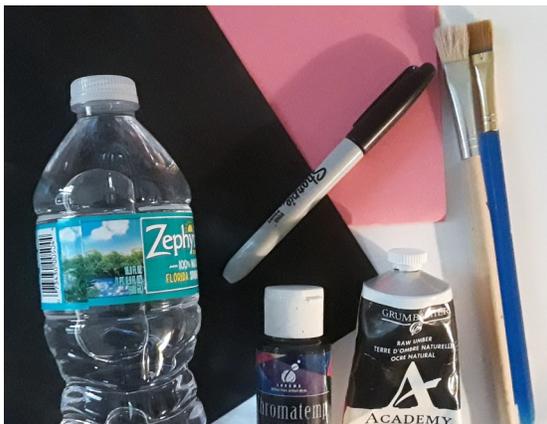
Questions for students

- What is the greatest threat to pandas?
- Why can't pandas adapt to live outside of the forest?
- What do pandas eat?
- What is the only country pandas live in today?
- Approximately how many wild pandas are alive today?

Please us the Other Resources Page before you start the art project

Materials

- 1 Water Bottle
- Black, White & Pink thicker paper
- White & Black Paint
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Goggles Eyes or paper ones
- Black Marker
- Double sided tape or Hot Glue Gun

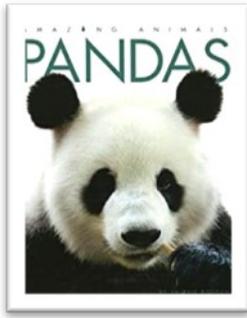


Other Learning Resources

Books to Read

Pandas Amazing Animals Series by Valerie Bodden

Giant Pandas by Brenda Haugen



Videos About Pandas

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dqT-UIYlgIs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VNxx8jVEm3I>

Websites About Pandas

<https://www.livescience.com/27335-giant-pandas.html>

<https://www.worldwildlife.org/species/giant-panda>

Instructions

Parents may need to help with steps in Green



1. Gather all your materials.
2. Take off cap of empty water bottle & flatten out bottle. Bend up the bottom of the bottle (round part) to make feet. Now bend down top of the bottle to make the head, pushing mouth of bottle up to make pandas' mussel. Place cap back on bottle:



3. Paint the bottle & cap white. I used acrylic paint. You can use Folk Art, all-purpose paint or **spray paint the bottle prior to the craft.**



4. While the paint is drying, cut out the feet, ears, eyes, & arms (note arms are one piece & go across the panda's chest) from the black paper. From the scrap cut half a circle for mouth & a nose. You can also cut a circle & glue a tail on the back of your panda. Fold your paper in half first & cut out 2 at a time this keeps them the same size.



5. With your marker, draw small circles for inside the ears, a tongue, & a rounded heart shape for top pad of feet & 3 circles for bottom of pad. Again, with paper folded to cut out 2 at a time.



6. Place double sided tape or **hot glue** under the head to hold it down. Leave a space towards the bottom to slide chest/arms under the chin. You want feet facing up, do not glue them down. Glue all the black parts on your bottle with a glue stick. Trim as needed. Now glue the pink parts on. Your panda is complete as is or you can continue to decorate as you like, add flowers in her hair, tie ribbon around its neck or maybe add a stalk of bamboo in his hand. Use your imagination!



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