We Share the World

Suggested Grade Level: 1-3
Character: Respect, Responsibility
Relative Subject(s): Language Art, Art

OBJECTIVE
To understand that all of us, people and animals, share this world and we must take good care of it and each other.

MATERIALS
• Book: Once There Was a Tree, by Natalia Romanova
• Poster paper for a mural
• Paint, paintbrushes, smocks, bowls of water

ACTIVITY

Preliminary Discussion
• Who are the people and animals that live in your neighborhood? Name the wild animals you have seen, as well as the pets that your neighbors have.
• In what ways do we all share the world we live in? Ask the students for examples.
• How can we take care of our neighborhoods so they are safe and clean for all people and animals?

Procedure
Read the story, Once There Was a Tree. Discuss how the animals, people and plants shared the forest together. Is this similar to the way we share our neighborhoods? Next, have the students paint a mural of all the people, animals and plants that share their neighborhoods. Hang the mural in the classroom.

Post-Discussion
• How can we show respect and kindness to all the people, animals and plants in our neighborhoods?
• How can your neighborhood be improved? Are there things that you, your family and neighbors can do together to improve it?
• What do you like the most about your neighborhood?

EXTENSION ACTIVITY
Take a walk around the school and/or the neighborhood surrounding the school and decide what types of things you could do to improve the area for people and animals (example: pick up litter).