Topic: Evolution Classification Mnemonic

Summary: Students learn the structure of the classification system and the order of the levels.

NGSS Standards: *HS-LS4-1.* Communicate scientific information that common ancestry and biological evolution are supported by multiple lines of empirical evidence.

Time Length: 20 minutes

Prerequisite Knowledge: Students have been introduced to why scientists use a classification system for the diversity of life.

Materials:
Class notes or textbook or online textbook
- https://flexbooks.ck12.org/cbook/ck-12-biology-flexbook-2.0/section/5.10/primary/lesson/linnaean-classification-bio/

Procedures:
1. Teach students what a mnemonic is. A good definition from dictionary.com is "something intended to assist the memory, as a verse or formula." It is best if you give an example or two so the students can see several examples.

2. Students should work by themselves on creating two mnemonics for about 10 minutes. Go around the room while students are writing their mnemonics.

3. After all of the students are finished, have them say the better of their two mnemonics aloud. To not waste time, students can just say theirs aloud from their desks. They should repeat it two or three times.

4. The other students should be listening to all the mnemonics. They will need to write down their favorite on the bottom of the handout. This class favorite may not be their own. Students will ask other students to repeat theirs in order to write it down. This helps students to learn this retention technique, as well as the classification order.

Accommodations: Students with an IEP can write one mnemonic instead of a second and a favorite. English language learners can write one mnemonic and a class favorite.

Editable DOCX File and Answer Key:
Available at www.ngsslifescience.com

Evolution Classification Mnemonic

You are going to make *two* mnemonics or phrases to help you remember the order of the classification system. After 10 minutes, you are going to present your best mnemonic to your partner and then the class. Listen to the other students' mnemonics and write your favorite on the bottom. All mnemonics must be appropriate for school.

Example: <u>K</u>ind <u>P</u>eople <u>C</u>reate <u>O</u>verly <u>F</u>antastic <u>G</u>reen <u>S</u>lime

1st Version of the mnemonic | 2nd Version of the mnemonic

Kingdom   **K**   _____

Phylum   **P**   _____

Class   **C**   _____

Order   **O**   _____

Family   **F**   _____

Genus   **G**   _____

Species   **S**   _____

Think, Pair, Share and then write your favorite mnemonic of the entire class.

K   _____

P   _____

C   _____

O   _____

F   _____

G   _____

S   _____