

# DESIGN A DEWEY ZOO

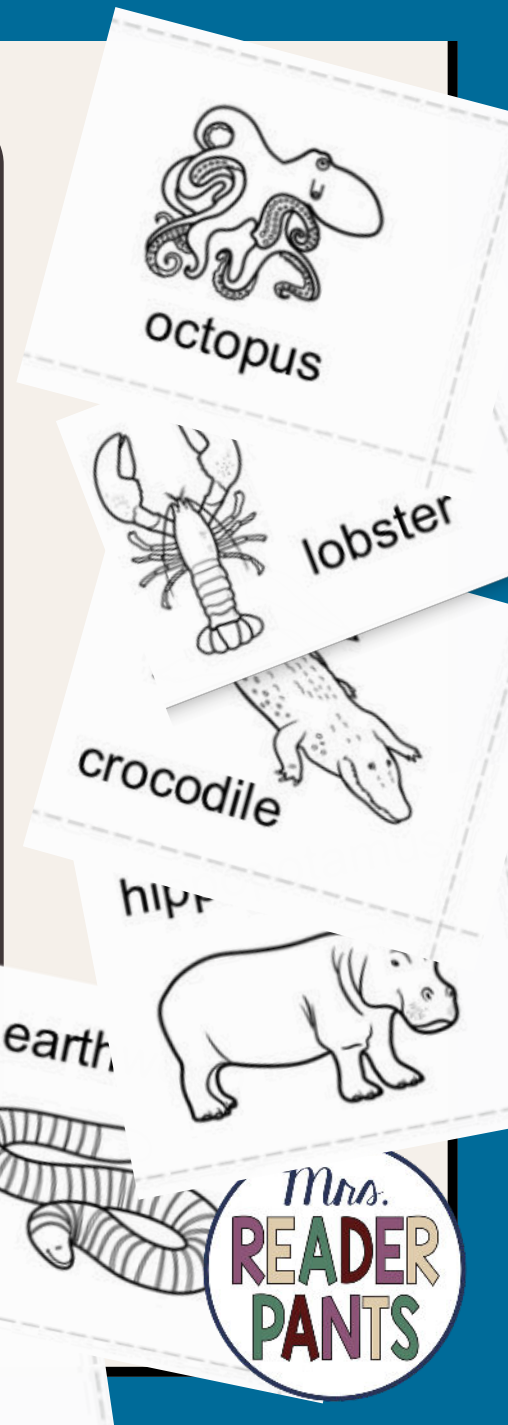
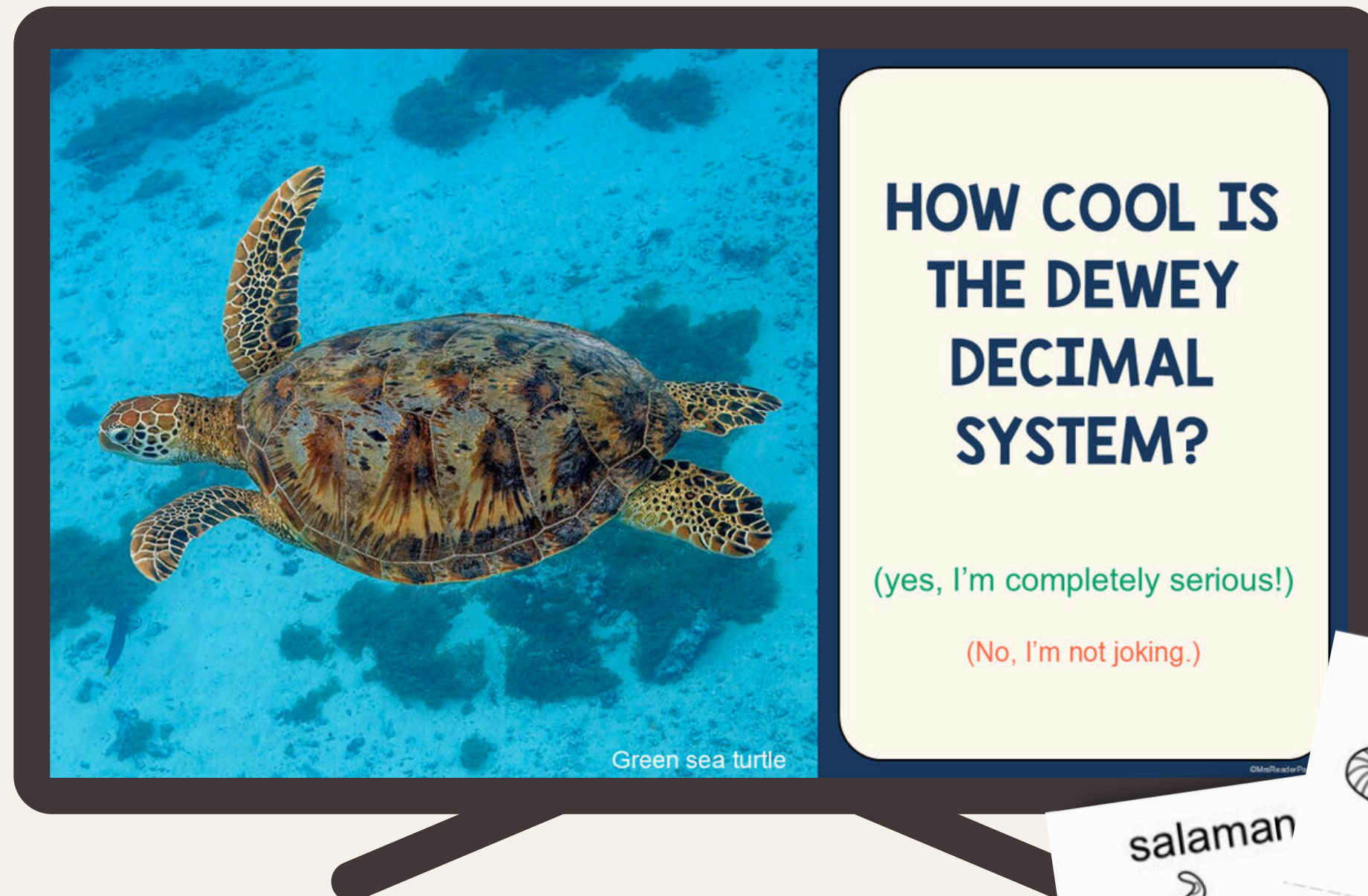
2-DAY LESSON, GROUP ACTIVITY, + PRESENTATION

CLASSIFICATION SKILLS

REALLY UNDERSTAND  
HOW DEWEY WORKS!

GOOGLE SLIDES OR PPT

GRADES 3-6



# THIS DEWEY DECIMAL LESSON INCLUDES:

AND ON AND ON AND ON...

## 599.7 – Carnivora

- 599.74 – Dog Family (wolves, foxes, dogs)
- 599.75 – Cat Family (big cats, tigers, lions)
- 599.76 – **Hyenas**, civets, mongooses, meerkats
- 599.77 – Weasels, raccoons, **bearcats**, otters
- 599.78 – Bears and pandas

All animals in 599.7\_ are mammals that eat meat.



spotted hyena

bearcat (binturong)



Walrus



Eastern gray squirrel

## SOME FACTS ABOUT THE DEWEY DECIMAL SYSTEM:

- It was created in 1876.
- It is used all over the world.
- New numbers and subjects have been added over time. What kinds of new subjects do you think were added since Dewey's first Decimal System in 1876?
- Another classification system, Library of Congress Classification (LCC), works in a similar way to Dewey. It is used in colleges and public libraries worldwide.



30 animal cards (print 15 per page)



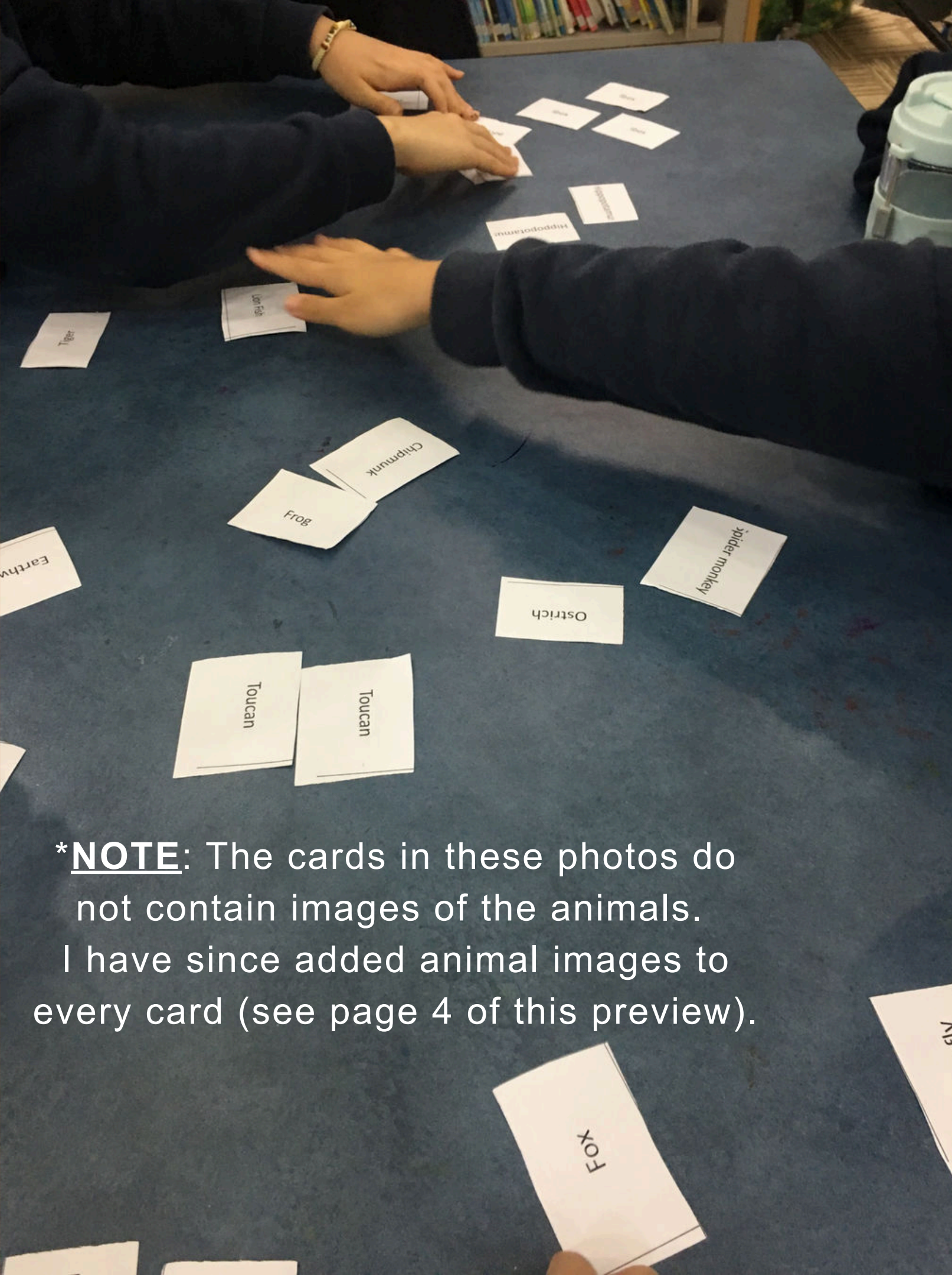
16-slide lesson presentation



Google Slides, PDF, & PowerPoint versions



Editable text



\***NOTE:** The cards in these photos do not contain images of the animals. I have since added animal images to every card (see page 4 of this preview).



“Last year I struggled so hard with my 3rd graders trying to get them to begin to understand the concept of the Dewey Decimal System.

This resource was super engaging, we had some great discussion as a class, and I believe it really made the DDS stick for them finally!”

~Brooke F., used with 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

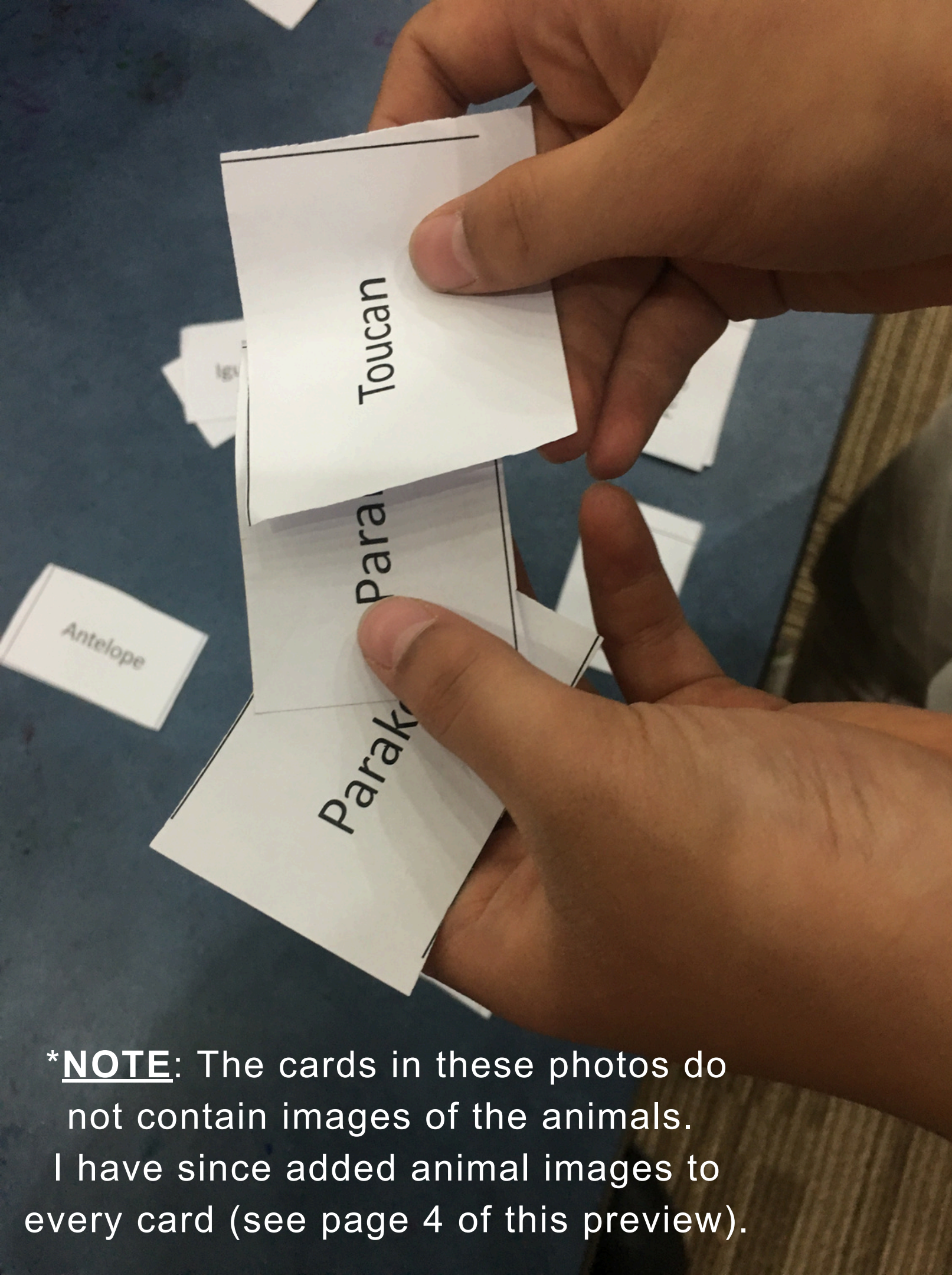
# 30 ANIMAL CARDS

All 30 animal cards contain the common animal name and a black-and-white illustration of the animal.

Each group of 3-5 students will need one set of 30 cards. These are easy to print and cut with a paper slicer.

There are 15 cards per page.





“This is brilliant. I wish I could give it more than 5 stars. This activity was a great way to explain Dewey, and the students were very engaged.”

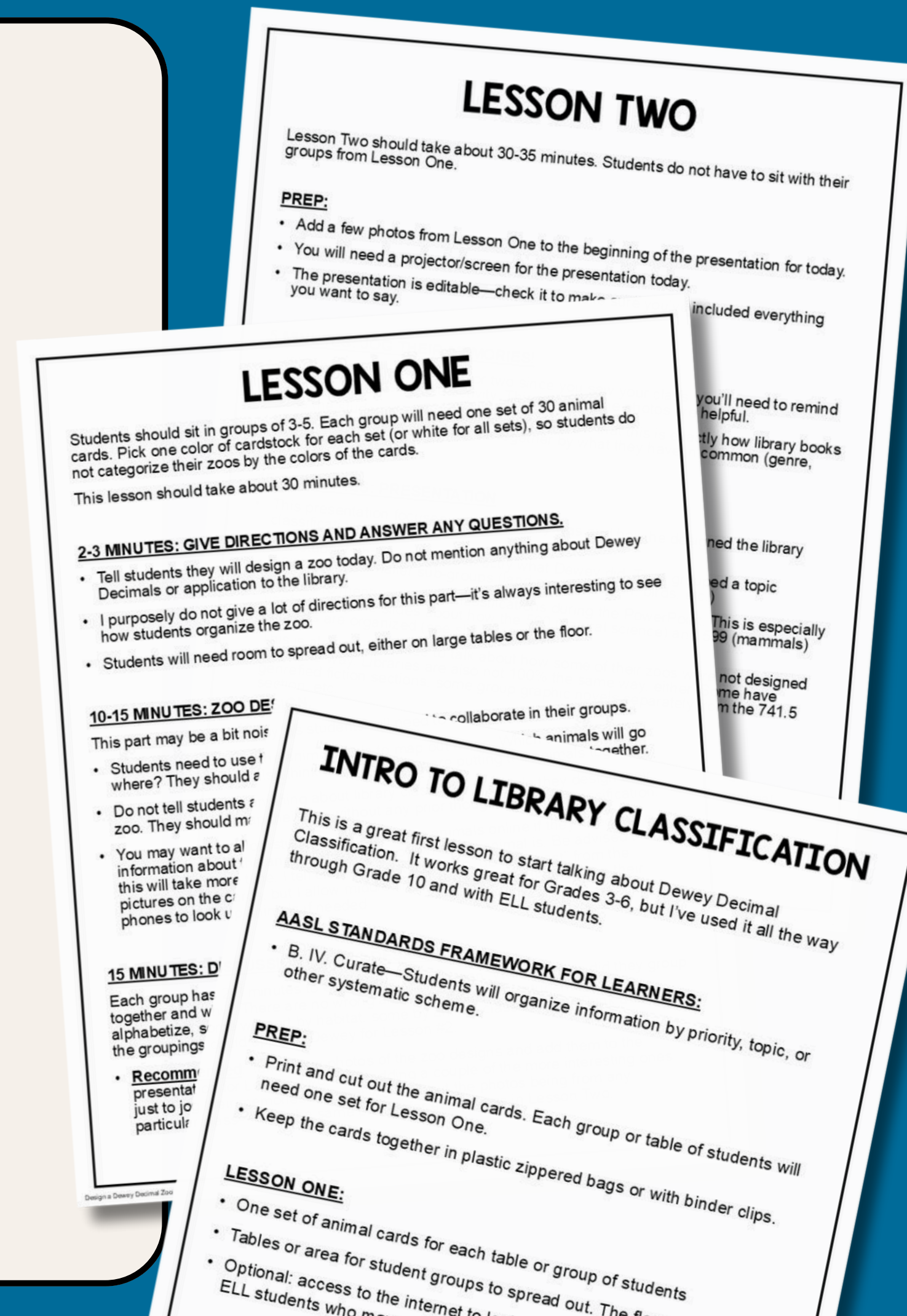
~Lydia D., used with 6<sup>th</sup> grade

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# STEP-BY-STEP LESSON PLAN

This lesson is designed for two class periods of about 35-40 minutes each.

I have included detailed, step-by-step, standards-aligned lesson plans that walk you through each day.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## IS THIS ACTIVITY READY TO USE TODAY?

YES, but you will need to print and cut the cards. You will need multiple sets of 30 cards.

One set = 2 pages  
15 cards per page =  
30 cards in each set

## WHAT EXACTLY IS EDITABLE?

Editable:  
all text in the  
presentation (Day 2)

NOT Editable:  
animal cards;  
images in the  
presentation

## WILL MY STUDENTS FINALLY UNDERSTAND DEWEY?

Well, that's the goal!

I know my students have a much better grasp on Dewey after this lesson. As students design their zoos, they are also designing the 590 section in a logical way...exactly as Melvil Dewey once did.

# READY TO PLAY?

Turn a dry library lesson into their favorite activity of the year! Students don't just memorize the Dewey Decimal System—they live it by becoming zoo designers first. By classifying the 590 Dewey section (animals) themselves, the concepts actually stick!

**ADD TO CART TO PLAY TODAY!**

