



Lesson Plan

Magic Tree House Fact Tracker: Pandas and Other Endangered Species

Fact Tracking with Jack

Being creative with the facts (a mini-research project)

This fun and creative activity is a way to introduce various text features and methods of expression in a research report.

MATERIALS NEEDED

Pandas and Other Endangered Species Fact Tracker

Copy of *Jack's Facts* notebook page (enclosed)

Crayons, markers or colored pencils

DIRECTIONS:

- After reading and discussing the Pandas and Other Endangered Species Fact Tracker, either in guided reading time or as an independent activity, the students will be ready to choose and share their favorite parts of the book.
- Tri-fold the *Jack's Facts* notebook page like a brochure with the writing showing on top.
- **First column** – The students write their three of their favorite facts next to the WOW, UNBELIEVABLE, and INTERESTING bullets on the page. Model how they should write “in their own words”.
- **Middle column** – The students draw a diagram, illustration, or map of their choice using the Fact Tracker as a reference. Include a caption.
- **Last column** – The students make an acrostic poem. Acrostic poems are a creative way to show a topic and details. The students choose a favorite topic idea from the Fact Tracker and write it in all capital letters vertically on the left. Each letter in the topic word begins another vocabulary word which is a detail that is written horizontally to the right. (See the answer key for an example)

FT48-2LP0815

Created by: Paula Cirillo, 2009 Magic Tree House Teacher of the Year, Peach Hill Academy, Moorpark, California



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IDEAS FOR NEXT STEPS (OPTIONAL)

- Collect a “Jack’s Facts” for each of the four Fact Trackers in the cluster and store in THE BACKPACK (from the Cluster lessons).
- Put them on an “O” ring and challenge the students to see how many they can collect.
- For fourth and fifth grades, use this mini- research report as an outline for a more in-depth research report.
- Use other lesson plans associated with this Fact Tracker and the accompanying Magic Tree House book to complete other projects.



The students in this class created a Lapbook using another lesson plan associated with this Fact Tracker.

Additional Lesson plans can be found at:

MTH#48 – Lesson Plan - Lapbook

<http://www.mthclassroomadventures.org/pdf/mth-48-lesson-plan-lapbook.pdf>

Jack's Facts

List your 3 favorite facts.

WOW!

-

UNBELIEVABLE!

-

INTERESTING!

-

Jack's Facts

Draw a diagram, illustration, or map

Jack's Facts

Make an acrostic poem.

Jack's Facts

List your 3 favorite facts.

WOW!

- Today there are only about 1600 pandas in the wild.

UNBELIEVABLE!

- It is estimated that there are almost 10,000 endangered species of animals and plants.

INTERESTING!

- Jane Goodall has spent 50 years studying chimpanzees in the wild.

Jack's Facts

Draw a diagram, illustration, or map

The Kiwi is an endangered bird that lives in New Zealand. It is a bird that can't fly.



Jack's Facts

Make an acrostic poem.

Poaching
African wild dogs
Nature reserves
David Greybeard
Arctic
Sloths