

Teach your scholars to gather the whole plant in a careful manner.

Specimen lesson on an animal.

Horse:—(1) size, (2) color, (3) home, (4) feet (great speed, why?) (5) food, (6) use, (have scholars enumerate different uses of horse to man.)

Here is a place to bring in a lesson on the kindness to animals.

How should we treat the horse for his work?

Often in these lessons on our domestic animals, interesting conversations may be had because the fathers of the children own different breeds of horses, cows, sheep, etc., and each boy will give reasons why his father's stock is best. Much more than I have outlined may be put in a lesson by the enthusiastic teacher, but the conversation should be to the point. Tolerate no silly questions. Take up cow, sheep, goat, deer, cat, dog, and insects in much the same way.

Specimen lesson on a mineral.

Iron:—(1) where found? (2) color, (3) weight, (4) how obtained? (in ore) (5) how smelted? (6) use (have children enumerate the various uses of iron.)

Other lessons may be made on copper, gold, silver, lead, etc.

Specimen lesson on Rain:—(1) what is it? (2) where does it come from? (3) how does it get into the air? (4) how is moisture carried? (5) how is moisture condensed? (illustrate this by boiling water on the stove and let the steam come in contact with a cold surface) (6) use (have children enumerate the uses of rain.)

Snow, hail, frost, dew, etc., will furnish other lessons. In the lessons on rain, dew, clouds, etc., the teacher must supply such information as the children cannot find out for themselves. I could outline many more lessons on this subject, but I deem the above specimen lessons sufficient for the live, energetic teacher who can make lessons of his own. All teachers who introduce this subject into their schools, note the results of their work at the end of the year. You will find that your scholars, besides the acquisition of a great amount of practical knowledge, have improved in the power of observing and in using their mother tongue.

The Language Work.

After the plant or animal has been observed by the scholars and they have told you, in detached sentences, about their observations, put an outline, with a drawing if possible, on the blackboard, and let the scholars fill it in. You will get some very pretty stories.