Animal Speeds

Objectives:

- Understanding basic spreadsheet skills
- Entering data into spreadsheet cells
- Making a bar graph with labels
- Copying and pasting appropriate pictures

Program Needed:

Students will need a spreadsheet program such as *Microsoft Excel* or *AppleWorks*. In addition, students will need clip art available.

Instructions:

1. Students should research the speeds of animals to see how fast they can run and add that data to a chart.
2. Students will open a blank spreadsheet.
3. Students will enter data similar to the example shown.
4. Students will highlight data and make a bar/column graph.
5. Students should add an appropriate title and labels. Explain to students about the X-Axis and Y-Axis. Have them label the correct axis with "miles per hour" depending on if the bars are horizontal or vertical.
6. Students should change the color of the bars. Many programs will do this by double clicking on the individual bars.
7. Students will then find pictures which correspond to each animal.
8. Graphs should be proofed and then printed.

cheetah	55
elephant	40
rabbit	20
dog	15
turtle	8

Extension Ideas:

Teachers could ask students to research speeds of cars. Information could be found at these Web sites: **http://www.teachercreated.com/books/2448 Click on page 46, site 1 or site 2.** Students may want to make a double bar graph comparing car speeds with animal speeds. Teachers could broaden the topic to research the speeds of all forms of transportation. For example, airplanes, trains, or space shuttles. If students finish early, have them make math problems out of the information. For example, "If an airplane and a train both traveled 100 miles at their top speed, approximately how much earlier would the airplane arrive than the train?"

Animal Speeds
Miles per Hour
0
20
30
40
50
60
Animals
Cheetah
Elephant
Rabbit
Dog
Turtle