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BEFORE 1: *OLINGUITO de la A a la Z!*

Before your visit to create a literacy connection with the natural world. Use the book *Olinguito* to learn about a cloud forest ecosystem before students explore their schoolyard for living things.

Standards Addressed: English 3.3, 3.4, 3.5; 4.4, 4.5

Instructional Strategy: Download the teacher guide to *Olinguito* here.
https://www.leeandlow.com/books/olinguito-de-la-a-a-la-z-descubriendo-el-bosque-nublado-olinguito-from-a-to-z-unveiling-the-cloud-forest/teachers_guide . Following is an excerpt from the teacher guide.

1. Read and talk about the title of the book. Ask students what they think the title *Olinguito, de la A a la Z!/ Olinguito, from A to Z!*, means. Then ask them what and who they think this book will most likely be about. What situations might be talked about in the text? What do you think might happen? What information do you think you might learn? What makes you think that?
2. Take students on a book walk and draw attention to the following parts of the book: front and back covers, including the blurb on the back cover; title page; dedication; acknowledgements; introductory page/text; illustrations; alphabet letters and alphabet text structure; English and Spanish text; back matter ("Discovery of the Olinguito," "The Cloud Forest," "The Illustrations," "Be an Explorer!") with photographs and map; glossary with pronunciations and scientific names; vocabulary bank; author's sources; and author/illustrator's bio.
3. Read the illustration note and point out the plant prints used throughout the artwork, such as the leaf prints on the letters C and D pages. Have students discuss why the creator, Lulu Delacre, uses plant materials in the book.
4. Spend time on the text structure of the book whereby the creator, Lulu Delacre, uses the alphabet to present the story and information.

Lesson Preparation:

Assess schoolyard for any safety concerns before taking students outside. You may wish to ask parents to assist in the exploration as well.

BLANDY
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