Figure 8.1  The Backs Have It Game

I. Objectives:

Science Objective: The students will pose yes/no questions using science terms to identify the object or organism in the picture on the card.

Language Objective: The students will ask and respond orally to yes/no questions based on what is pictured on the card.

II. Materials:

A set of pictures of animals, plants, scenes of different habitats, different seasons, etc., from old calendars, magazines, state park or wildlife agencies, and National Geographic.

Have the pictures laminated. Punch holes in the upper-right and left corners and tie a string through each hole, leaving enough length for students to place the picture over their heads to rest on their backs.

III. Directions:

Part A

1. Students work with a partner.

2. One member of the pair places the laminated card on the back of his or her partner. Do not let the partner see what is on the card.

3. The student with the card on his or her back will try to discover what is on the card. This student asks yes/no questions such as:
   - Is it an animal? Is it a plant?
   - Does it eat plants?
   - Does it live on land? Does it live in a marine ecosystem?
   - Does this organism live in a freshwater ecosystem?
   - Is this organism terrestrial?
   - Is this organism a producer? Is this organism a consumer? Is it a predator? Or prey?
   - Does this organism get its food during the day? At night?
   - Is it winter? Spring? Summer? Fall?
   - Is the picture of a specific biome?

4. The winners will be the pair that discovers what is on the partner’s back first.

Part B

When the student identifies what is on the card correctly, the student answering the yes/no questions reads any additional information that may be on the card. For example:

- The habitat of the organism
- Where it lives and what it eats
- The types of adaptations it has, if any, to survive
- Animal and plant facts