

Lesson Title : Career Critters and Ecosystems

Essential Question: How do organisms work together to create an ecosystem?



Instructional Time needed for Lesson: 20-25 minutes

Lesson Summary:

In this lesson students will learn about what makes up an ecosystem. They will also learn how to identify a specific organism's niche, and how they interact with the different parts of their ecosystem.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of class instruction students will be able to:

Objective 1: Identify five examples of how wild animals and plants can be used to manage some environmental problems.

Objective 2: Describe and give examples of an organism and its niche.

Objective 3: Describe the main components of an ecosystem.

Objective 4: Explain how the different parts of an area interact to make an ecosystem.

Extension:

1. Students may research more information about the animals or plants on the critter cards.
2. Survey the neighborhood, or study the newspapers and news articles for local environmental problems. Could they be solved using wild animals or plant managers?

Key Terms:

- Ecosystem
- Erosion
- Insecticide
- Niche
- Omnivores
- Decomposers
- Food Chain
- Predator
- Prey
- Food Web
- Sun

To conserve and enhance Pennsylvania's elk country for future generations.



TOBY NEAL

Conservation Education
Coordinator

PO Box 315
134 Homestead Drive
Benezette, PA 15821
814-787-5173

TNealKECA@windstream.net
ExperienceElkCountry.com