

Learning Experience 2

Ecosystem Webs

DO NOW

Make a list in your science notebook of the organisms you found the previous day in EcoMUVE. Draw pictures of them if you have extra time.

HOOK

As you already know, organisms can be categorized as either producers or consumers in an ecosystem.

- Producer: An organism that can make its own food through the process of photosynthesis.
- Consumer: An organism that feeds on other organisms because it cannot make its own food.
- Check your list of organisms and try to identify whether they are a producer or consumer.

Teacher Prep/Materials

- Laptop cart/computers
- EcoMUVE
- Experience 2 Presentation & Do Now
- Experience 2 Ecosystem Web Template Web Tool Link:
<http://goo.gl/y94Tbp>

Summary

Students will learn about the role of producers and consumers within an ecosystem. Students will be able to categorize organisms accordingly. Additionally, students will be able to arrange organisms in an ecosystem web that represents relationships between biotic and abiotic factors within the ecosystem.

Understanding and Performance Goals

- Students will use what they know about forest organisms to construct and ecosystem web using key vocabulary.
- Ask why each of these roles is important to an ecosystem.
- Learn more about what organisms eat using the Forest Field Guide.

Analyze (5 min.)

1. Class discussion - what are producers and consumers?
2. Ask students to share any organisms found the previous day that are either producers or consumers. Explain why each is a producer or a consumer.

Explore (20 min.)

1. Explain that the goal for today is to use what they have learned so far about the organisms to construct an ecosystem web that represents categories of organisms as well as biotic and abiotic factors within the ecosystem. Students continue to explore and collect entries in their field guides for the two islands. They do not need to collect all of the organisms in their field guide, but they can try to use as many as possible in the time they have available.

Time

40 minutes

Key Vocabulary

Producer
Consumer
Biotic
Abiotic
Predation
Mutualism
Competition
Parasitism

2. Circulate around the room to help students.

Review, Extend, Apply (15 min.)

- Allow students to work on Ecosystem Webs. Students can either use paper or the online food web at: <http://goo.gl/y94Tbp>