

Unit 08: Ecology

Content Area: **Template**
Course(s):
Time Period:
Length:
Status: **Published**

State Mandated Topics Addressed in this Unit

State Mandated Topics Addressed in this Unit	
N/A	N/A

Unit 3: Ecology

Essential Questions

- How are biological communities structured to ensure their stability through time?
- How have human activities shaped local and global ecology?
- What is driving the flow of matter and energy through ecosystems?
- Why is the cycling of energy and matter important to life on earth?

Objectives

- Analyze the interrelationships and interdependencies among different organisms, and explain how these relationships contribute to the stability of the ecosystem
- Apply data representations and new models to revise predictions and explanations.
- Apply mathematical formulas to justify the concept of an efficient diet.
- Cite evidence that the transfer and transformation of matter and energy links organisms to one another and to their physical setting.
- Design a solution to a human-caused environmental problem, including a discussion of the populations affected, and reasoning why the general public should support such a movement.
- Model how natural and human-made changes in the environment will affect individual organisms and the dynamics of populations.
- Predict what would happen to an ecosystem if an energy source was removed.
- Reflect on and revise observations as new evidence emerges

Standards

9-12.HS-LS2-1	Use mathematical and/or computational representations to support explanations of factors that affect carrying capacity of ecosystems at different scales.
9-12.HS-LS2-2	Use mathematical representations to support and revise explanations based on evidence about factors affecting biodiversity and populations in ecosystems of different scales.
9-12.HS-LS2-6	Evaluate claims, evidence, and reasoning that the complex interactions in ecosystems maintain relatively consistent numbers and types of organisms in stable conditions, but changing conditions may result in a new ecosystem.
9-12.HS-LS2-4	Use mathematical representations to support claims for the cycling of matter and flow of energy among organisms in an ecosystem.
9-12.HS-LS2-5	Develop a model to illustrate the role of photosynthesis and cellular respiration in the cycling of carbon among the biosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere, and geosphere.
9-12.HS-LS2-3	Construct and revise an explanation based on evidence for the cycling of matter and flow of energy in aerobic and anaerobic conditions.

Instructional Tasks/Activities

- Buddies symbiotic activity
- “Oh Deer” Lab (outdoors): students enact predator-prey relationships and population dynamics
- Biodiversity Campaign: Students research various populations in an area that has been affected by a negative human impact. Students summarize the impact on the ecosystem and design ways to fix the damage. Add on: students can design experimental tests/simulations/models to see if their solution would work in the real world to save biodiversity in that ecosystem.
- Biome Research Project: students identify a major problem and solution in that area of the world. Create a persuasive brochure/ poster/ presentation to convince others that your biome is worth saving.
- Biome Tour/Map Activity
- Carrying Capacity Lab
- Demography Internet Activity: students collect cemetery data and interpret change in human population growth over time
- Food Web Research Project: students research relationships between various producers and consumers in tropical rainforest provided. Organize organisms into an accurate food web, showing flow of energy
- Human Population Research Project: students research the population growth of the country of their choice then identify type of human population growth according to current population characteristics. Explain why that population is growing in that way
- Population Biology Virtual Lab: students observe and interpret the simulation of varied population growth in bacteria under different conditions using laboratory procedures
- Review game
- Succession Scenarios: students listen to or read various scenarios of damage to an ecosystem (volcanic eruption, clear cutting a forest, etc.) then attempt explain how different ecosystems will recover after various levels of disturbance
- Vocabulary Quizzes
- Water Carbon, Nitrogen, Phosphorous Cycles Diagrams: Students draw, label, color diagrams using examples of their own for each stage.

Assessment Procedure

- Biome color map of US: Students color each different biome found in the United States a different color.
- Classroom Total Participation Technique
- Classwork
- DBQ
- Essay
- Exit Ticket/Entrance Ticket/Do Now
- Foldables – organization of material (biotic vs. abiotic, types of succession, weather vs. climate, major biome types)
- Group discussion
- Journal / Student Reflection
- Kahoot
- Other named in lesson
- Peer Review
- Performance
- PowerPoint presentation of material
- Problem Correction
- Project
- Quiz
- Rubric
- Teacher Collected Data
- Test
- Think, pair, share (read assigned section of text individually, discuss with a partner, present material in pairs to class – use PowerPoint as a reference)
- Worksheet

Recommended Technology Activities

- Appropriate Content Specific Online Resource
- Chromebook
- Gimkit
- GoGuardian
- Google Classroom
- Google Docs
- Google Forms
- Google Slides
- Kahoot
- MagicSchool AI
- Other- Specified in Lesson
- Quiziz

- Screencastify

Accommodations & Modifications & Differentiation

Accommodations and Modifications should be used to meet individual needs. Their IEP and 504 plans should be used in addition to the following suggestions.

Gifted and Talented

- Compare & Contrast
- Conferencing
- Debates
- Jigsaw
- Peer Partner Learning
- Problem Solving
- Structured Controversy
- Think, Pair, Share
- Tutorial Groups

Instruction/Materials

- alter format of materials (type/highlight, etc.)
- color code materials
- eliminate answers
- extended time
- extended time
- large print
- modified quiz
- modified test
- Modify Assignments as Needed
- Modify/Repeat/Model directions
- necessary assignments only
- Other (specify in plans)
- other- named in lesson
- provide assistance and cues for transitions
- provide daily assignment list
- read class materials orally
- reduce work load

- shorten assignments
- study guide/outline
- utilize multi-sensory modes to reinforce instruction

Environment

- alter physical room environment
- assign peer tutors/work buddies/note takers
- assign preferential seating
- individualized instruction/small group
- modify student schedule (Describe)
- other- please specify in plans
- provide desktop list/formula

Honors Modifications

N/A

Resources

- Resource 1
- Resource 2
- Resource 3
- Resource 4
- Resource 5