



#FontanaTogether

DRAWING ECOSYSTEMS

What is an ecosystem?

- An ecosystem is a community of interacting living things and their surroundings.
- An ecosystem is made up of living and non-living things.
- The living organisms are bacteria, small and large animals, and plants.
- While the non-living organisms are water, sunlight, soil, air, and temperature.
- All types of ecosystems fall into one of two categories: terrestrial or aquatic.
- Terrestrial ecosystems are land, while aquatic is water.
- The major types of ecosystems are forests, grasslands, deserts, tundra, freshwater and marine.

During this activity, you will draw the different living and non-living organisms that live in a type of ecosystem. You will pick out, from a box, whether you will be drawing animals that live on land or water.

After, you will pick out one of the major types of ecosystems (forest, grassland, desert, tundra, freshwater, or marine) and draw as much as possible the living and nonliving organisms that live in that ecosystem.

Types of Ecosystem with Examples

I: Natural: Terrestrial



Grassland

Forest

Desert

Natural: Aquatic



a) Marine: Oceans



b) Freshwater: Lakes

II: Artificial or Manmade

Aquarium



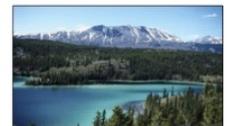
Crop field



Tropical Rainforest



Temperate Forest



Coniferous Forest (Taiga)



Tropical Grassland (Savannah)



Temperate Grassland



Mediterranean



Desert



Tundra



Mountain

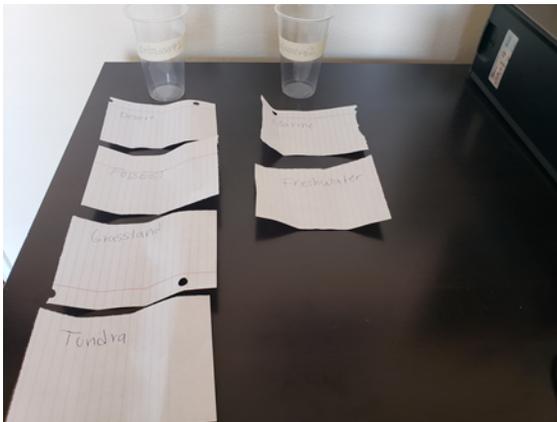
MATERIALS:

- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers
- Paper
- Safety scissors (If there are only regular scissors ask adult to cut paper)
- Pencil
- 3 boxes or any type of small container

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Take two blank papers and fold each blank paper in four. There should be four squares in each paper and 8 squares in total.

2. Take the safety scissors and cut the squares.
3. After you have your 8 squares cut out, write on one square "Land" and on another square "Water." Put these two squares in a box or small container. Next, for each square left, write: FOREST, TUNDRA, GRASSLAND, DESERT, FRESHWATER, MARINE
4. Put forest, tundra, grassland, and desert on one box and freshwater and marine on another box. You should have 3 boxes filled with square papers.
5. Set another blank sheet of paper with crayons, colored pencils, or markers. Next, get a square paper out, without looking into the box, from the two papers you wrote "Land" and "Water." Once you have your paper, if you got land, pick out another paper from the box you put forest, tundra, grassland, and desert, without looking. If you got water, pick out from the box you put freshwater and marine, without looking.
6. After you have your 2 papers, draw as many living and non-living organisms in your blank sheet of paper based on what ecosystem you pulled out of the box (your 2 papers).



MODIFICATIONS/VARIATIONS:

- This activity can also be done as a group and share what ecosystem each person drew and the living and non-living organisms that can be found.
- If it is difficult to think about any living and non-living organisms in a type of ecosystem, you can always connect to the internet and do some research.
- Add more different ecosystems (hint: some are in the pictures above)