



Ecosystems Activities

Agape Center for Environmental
Education

Ecosystems: Ecosystem Finger Fold (5-6)

This activity focuses on different aspects of ecosystems including abiotic and biotic factors, competition between species, different types of consumers, producers, etc.

Supplies:

- Finger fold printout
- Scissors
- Coloring utensils

Directions to fold the finger fold:

- Cut out the square finger fold
- Fold and unfold the square in half diagonally in both directions to make two creases that form an X.
- With the square facedown, fold each of the four corners so that the points touch the center of the square.
- Turn the paper over so the flaps are face down.
- Fold each corner to the middle again so that the corners are touching the middle.
- Fold the square in half making a rectangle.
- Slide both thumbs and pointer fingers underneath tabs.
- Pinch the top corners together to form a point, and you are ready to play!

Before you play:

- Color in the finger fold as desired.
- Add definitions of each word written onto the finger fold.

To play (play with a partner or on your own to review):

- Choose a number 1-5
- Open and close the finger fold according to the number chosen
- Choose one of the four definitions inside and then answer with the word that it defines.
 - Lift the flap for the answer.

Possible Definitions for Terms Used:

- Abiotic- nonliving factors in an ecosystem
- Adaptation- something that allows an animal to survive in its habitat
- Herbivore- an animal that only eats vegetation
- Competition- the fight between living things for the same resources
- Omnivore- an animal that eats both meat and plants
- Microorganism- a living organism too small to see without a microscope

Possible Definition for Terms Used Continued:

- Carnivore- an animal that eats only other animals
- Biotic- living factors in an ecosystem



Ecosystems

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Herbivore

Competition

Adaptation

Omnivore

Abiotic

Microorganism

Biotic

Carnivore

Ecosystems

Ecosystems

Write definitions in
these triangles.



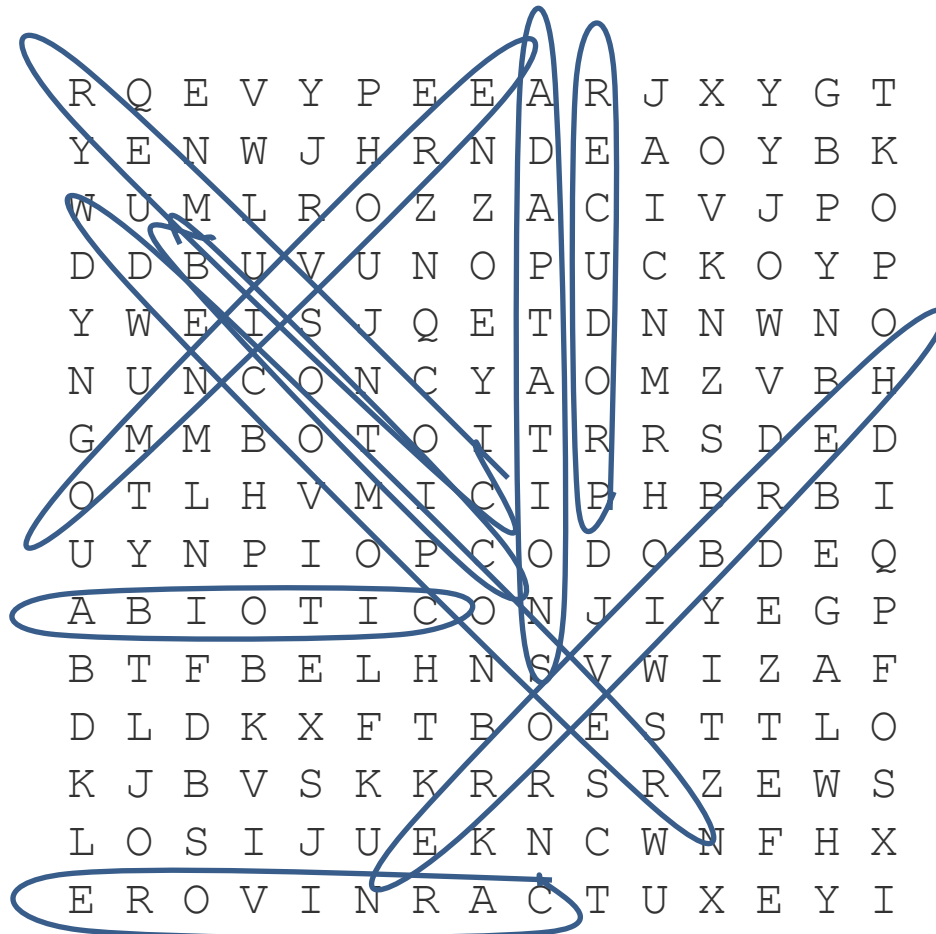
Ecosystems: Word Search (4-8)

R Q E V Y P E E A R J X Y G T
Y E N W J H R N D E A O Y B K
W U M L R O Z Z A C I V J P O
D D B U V U N O P U C K O Y P
Y W E I S J Q E T D N N W N O
N U N C O N C Y A O M Z V B H
G M M B O T O I T R R S D E D
O T L H V M I C I P H B R B I
U Y N P I O P C O D O B D E Q
A B I O T I C O N J I Y E G P
B T F B E L H N S V W I Z A F
D L D K X F T B O E S T T L O
K J B V S K K R R S R Z E W S
L O S I J U E K N C W N F H X
E R O V I N R A C T U X E Y I

Word Bank:

ABIOTIC
ADAPTATION
BIOTIC
CARNIVORE
CONSUMER
DECOMPOSER
HERBIVORE
OMNIVORE
PRODUCER

Ecosystems: Word Search (4-8) Answer Key



Word Bank:

ABIOTIC
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Ecosystems: Water Worries (K-5)

This activity focuses on various water pollutants and how challenging it is to undo water pollution.

Supplies:

- Bucket/tub for water
- Vegetable oil (to represent oil spills)
 - Soil (runoff)
 - Big pieces of trash
- Tiny pieces of trash (micro-trash; glitter is a good representation)
 - Strainer
 - Tongs
- Any other materials that can be used to try and clean up the water

Directions:

- Fill the tub with water
- Have kids take turns adding trash and debris to the water
- After the water is full of pollution, have the students try and take everything out with the provided materials (tongs, strainer, hands, etc.)
- Look at what is left in the water after the clean-up process and discuss.

Accompanying Books:

Oil Spill by Melvin Berger
Where Does the Garbage Go? By Paul
Showers

Accompanying Song

- Good Garbage:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xR8Y651NA7w&index=3&list=PLwAnW1dXZcVAVXP7tO6We33Imz5yEab0m>

Ecosystems: Scavenger Hunt (4-5)

This activity focuses on various factors in the ecosystem(s) around you.

Supplies:

- Provided Scavenger Hunt Sheet
 - Clipboards
 - Writing Utensils

Directions:

- Pass out a scavenger hunt sheet to each student/team of students.
- Have students search for the items on the scavenger hunt and write down/take pictures of what they found.
- Can also play in a Bingo format if desired.
- Be sure to emphasize that all the things they find should be left alive and unharmed.

Ecosystems: Scavenger Hunt (5-8)



Find a biotic factor with a peculiar shape. Draw it below/take picture of it.	Find an area you think animals would compete over and explain why.	Determine how to measure an abiotic factor that you cannot see and record your findings below.	Find an abiotic factor that you can find on the ground.
Find 5 differently shaped leaves. Draw the shapes below. (Bonus points for identifying the plants they came from.)	Find three different types of bark. Write down the advantages and disadvantages of each of them.	Find evidence of an animal and write down what adaptations you think it has to survive there.	Find a biotic factor that gathers energy from the sun.
Find something soft.	Find an animal (or evidence of an animal) that lives in the trees.	Find an animal (or evidence of an animal) that lives in the ground.	Find a biotic factor that you can find on the ground.
Find an animal that flies.	Find something that has a pattern.	Determine the type of one of the ecosystems in which you have been.	Find an animal (or evidence of an animal) that lives in the water.
Find something sticky.	Find an insect or arachnid. Make sure you determine which one it is!	Find something rough.	Find a seed dispersal unit.