

**Title:** Describe the Ecosystem

**Subject:** Language Arts/Earth Science

**Time:** 40 minutes, each week of the adventure

**Grade Level:** 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades

**Objective:**

Students will increase awareness of a particular ecosystem. Students will increase descriptive language skills and vocabulary to properly describe the ecosystem by using photos and making inferences.

**Illinois State Standards and Objectives:**

**2.B.2a** Respond to literary material by making inferences, drawing conclusions and comparing it to their own experiences, prior knowledge, and other texts.

**5.A.2b** Organize and integrate information from a variety of sources.

**1.A.3b** Analyze the meaning of words and phrases in their context.

**2.B.2a** Respond to literary material by making inferences, drawing conclusions and comparing it to their own experiences, prior knowledge, and other texts.

**1.A.2a** Read and comprehend unfamiliar words using root words, synonyms, antonyms, word origins and derivations.

**1.A.2b** Clarify word meaning using context clues and a variety of resources including glossaries, dictionaries, and thesauruses.

**1.A.3b** Analyze the meaning of words and phrases in their context.

**12.B.2a** Describe relationships among various organisms in their environments.

**12.E.2a** Identify and explain natural cycles of the Earth's land, water, and atmospheric systems (e.g. rock cycle, water cycle, weather patterns).

**12.E.2b** Describe and explain short-term and long-term interactions of the Earth's components.

**Method:**

Dave and Eric will be traveling through diverse ecosystems as they make their through the adventure. At the beginning of each week, during the Rain Forest Project, students will have to complete the Describe the Ecosystem Worksheet to better understand the different ecosystems of Costa Rica and the world.

During the adventure, students will keep the different Describe the Ecosystem worksheets and then analyze their similarities and differences at the end of the adventure.

## Describe the Ecosystem

Each week, Dave and Eric will be in a new ecosystem. Each new ecosystem presents new terrain, new wildlife, and a new set of challenges that the explorers will have to face.

It's your job to use descriptive language to accurately describe the ecosystem and present new information in the worksheet below.

1. This week, Dave and Eric are visiting (town or region)

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2. This area is located:



3. Six words that describe the ecosystem are:

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4. Four examples of wildlife found in this ecosystem are:

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5. If this ecosystem were to be lost, it would have negative impacts like: (list two).

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