

Ecosystem Activity: Interactions Between Living Things in an Ecosystem

Objective:

Create a poster that showcases an ecosystem. The poster should demonstrate the following:

1. Identifying components like predators, prey, producers, and abiotic factors.
2. Exploring relationships between the organisms in the ecosystem, showing how they depend on each other.

Part I: Identifying Components in the Ecosystem

On your poster, clearly indicate the following components:

- **Predators:** Use pictures or symbols to represent the predators in your ecosystem (e.g., wolves, sharks).
- **Prey:** Show the prey species that are eaten by the predators (e.g., rabbits, small fish).
- **Producers:** Show plants or organisms that make food (e.g., trees, grass, algae).
- **Abiotic Factors:** Draw or label non-living factors such as sunlight, temperature, water, soil, and air.

Part II: Create Your Food Web:

This is the fun part where you draw the food web!

- Use arrows to show how energy flows in the ecosystem

Part III: Exploring Relationships

Use helpful linking words (shown below) to explain the relationships between the organisms:

Cause and Effect:

- If the number of [predator] increases, the number of [prey] will decrease/increase because [reason].
- If the number of [predator] decreases, the number of [prey] will decrease/increase because [reason].
- If the number of [prey] increases, the number of [predator] will decrease/increase because [reason].
- If the number of [prey] decreases, the number of [predator] will decrease/increase because [reason].
- If the temperature increases, [producers] will [grow faster/slow down] because [reason].

Competition:

- [Organism A] competes with [organism B] for [resource], which affects [effect on both].