

Ecosystems Research

Outcomes: Science Inquiry, Science Understanding: Biology

**Working in groups of 1-2, use library resources to research one ecosystem or biome from the list below:**

* Mountains (High Elevation or Alpine)
* Arctic Tundra
* Taiga (Cold Climate Forest)
* Temperate Deciduous Forest
* Marine shoreline/ Island
* Arid Desert
* Tropical Dry Forest
* Dry sclerophyll Forest
* Grassland
* Savannah
* Tropical Rainforest
* Antarctic
* Mangrove
* Wetlands
* Coral Reef
* Estuarine
* Rivers and Streams
* Ponds and Lakes
* Saltlakes and Inland Oceans
* Riparian Fringe
* Temperate Oceans
* Tropical Oceans

1. Make a point form summary to answer the questions below, collect diagrams and keep a list of references.
2. Briefly describe the geographical location of the ecosystem or biome, ie where is it found?
3. Describe the climatic and other (eg landform) conditions.
4. List the main producers and consumers that are found there.
5. Write one food chain or a simple food web for that ecosystem or biome.
6. List or briefly describe the types of human activities that occur in the ecosystem or biome.
7. While you are researching, write down 5 unfamiliar words, then find their meaning (keep references) and write a definition in your own words.
8. Use pictures or drawings to make an A4 3D poster or diorama.

**You will need to hand in:**

* point form summary
* glossary
* bibliography
* 3D poster or diorama
* Assignment sheet

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| **Marking guide /25** | | | | |
|  | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| **Location** | Names location or shows on map |  |  |  |
| **Conditions** | Identifies one or two features, such as temperature or rainfall | Describes climate and landforms |  |  |
| **Producers and consumers** | Identifies less than 5 species | Identifies 5 or more species |  |  |
| **Food Chain or Web** | Shows a simple food chain (3 species) | Shows a food web (at least 5 species) |  |  |
| **Human Influences** | States one or two human activities | States three or more human activities |  |  |
| **Diagrams** | One or two, showing species only | Two or three, showing species and habitat | Four or more showing species, habitat and maps |  |
| **Glossary** | 3 or 4 words defined | 5 words defined but not necessarily in context or own words | 5 words defined in context and own words |  |
| **Poster format** | Cluttered, unclear or hard to read;  appears incomplete | Visually appealing but lacking in content or clarity; too much or too little text or graphics | Visually appealing, good use of graphics and text | Visually appealing, good use of graphics, text, captions and  font/colour |
| **Poster editing** | Some spelling or grammar mistakes | No spelling or grammar mistakes |  |  |
| **Note taking** | Some information missing or whole sentences copied | All information in notes; point form |  |  |
| **Bibliography** | 2 or less references or incorrect format | 3 or more references; correct reference format |  |  |