

General Approach:

1. Gather/record information
 2. Brainstorm "What if" questions
 - Change initial conditions
 - Change ecological rules
 - Change human/animal behavior
 3. Highlight information that relates to the question
 4. Use that information to make/justify a prediction
- Today {

1. Before European-American settlers came to the Willamette Valley, how did Native Americans influence the native vegetation in the valley? Why did the Native Americans do these things? (5 minutes)

Gather info:

They burned annually @ end of summer.
To create prairie/open-woodlands — encouraged growth of beneficial plants, made hunting easier.

Brainstorm "what if"::

- ① What if the W.V. had been a dense oak forest prior to burning?
- ② What if fire encouraged the growth of Douglas Fir?
- ③ What if deer preferred oak leaves to grass?

Highlight relevant info:

- Burning created prairie/open woodlands
- Burning facilitated hunting
- Fires were cool due to lack of fuel
- Douglas fir outcompetes other trees
- Fires burned baby oaks

Use info to predict/justify: (pick 1)

Burning would continue because burnings promoted oak savanna which would provide food. However, the N.A.'s might burn less often or less area to avoid burning all the baby oaks.

What your test answers should look like! (Predictions that are justified.)