
Keep It Clean!



curriculum links

Grade 4:

- ◆ Understanding Life Systems:
Habitats and Communities



overview

This activity shows students a model that demonstrates the movement of water through residential, recreational, rural and urban landscapes. How different land use practices contribute to point and non-point source pollution is illustrated.

grade 4 expectations

Science and Technology

Understanding Life Systems: Habitats and Communities

Overall Expectations

- ◆ analyse the effects of human activities on habitats and communities;
- ◆ investigate the interdependence of plants and animals within specific habitats and communities;
- ◆ demonstrate an understanding of habitats and communities and the relationships among the plants and animals that live in them.

Specific Expectations

Relating Science and Technology to Society and the Environment

- ◆ analyse the positive and negative impacts of human interactions with natural habitats and communities, and evaluate ways of minimizing the negative impacts;
- ◆ identify reasons for the depletion or extinction of a plant or animals species, evaluate the impacts on the rest of the natural community, and propose possible actions for preventing such depletions or extinctions from happening.



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Developing Investigation and Communication Skills

- use scientific inquiry/research skills to investigate ways in which plants and animals in a community depend on features of their habitat to meet important needs;
- use appropriate science and technology vocabulary, including *habitat*, *population*, *community*, *adaptation*, and *food chain*, in oral and written communication.

Understanding Basic Concepts

- demonstrate an understanding of habitats as areas that provide plants and animals with the necessities of life;
- demonstrate an understanding of a community as a group of interacting species sharing a common habitat;
- describe ways in which humans are dependent on natural habitats and communities.

key terms

Contaminant - A substance introduced into the air, water, or soil that reduces its usefulness to humans and other organisms in nature (e.g. making water impure and unfit for consumption or use).

Hazardous Materials - Materials that present a threat to human health or to the environment when they are produced, stored, transported or used.

