

SCIENCE WRITERS

How an Ecosystem Works

by _____

About the Author:

I am

I think science is important because

I have learned about this science topic by

Writer's guide developed for the Chicago Tribune News Readers/Writers by the DePaul Center for Urban Education



Get It → Get It **Clear** ⇨ Think More ↗ Think It Through ⇨ Get It Together ❖ Get It Across ⇨

The Connected Curriculum DePaul Center for Urban Education

INTRODUCTION

Everyone should know how an ecosystem works.

You need to know this because of at least three reasons:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

I have written a news feature on one environment. In my report, I will explain the ecosystem. Here are some words you will need to know to read my report. I have written a short definition of each word.

ecosystem: _____

environment: _____

balance: _____

variable: _____

dynamic: _____

imbalance: _____

cause: _____

effect: _____

scientist: _____



The Ecosystem: Water

Here is a map of the place where the ecosystem is. It shows the water.



An ecosystem has to have water. Some ecosystems have more than others.

Here is what the map shows about water in this ecosystem.

The Ecosystem: Land

This timeline shows some of the changes that have affected the ecosystem.

date event



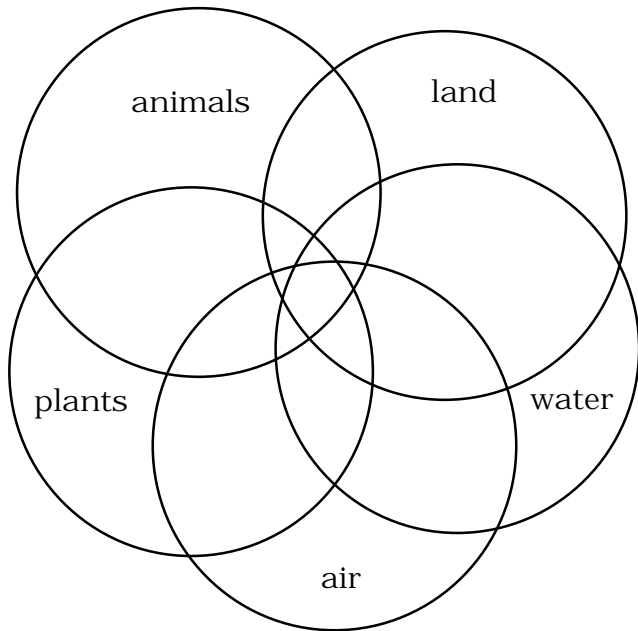
This is what I think is a very important change.

This is why I think it is important.



INTERDEPENDENCE

All the parts of an ecosystem are related.
This diagram shows that they are connected.



For example, each animal needs all the other parts of the ecosystem.
Here is one animal that lives in this ecosystem. Here is how it depends on other parts of this system.

PART OF THE ECOSYSTEM	How one animal depends on it.
land	
air	
water	
plants	
other animals	

Which part is most important?

Change

A variable is something that changes. In some science experiments, people change one variable to see what will happen. First they make a prediction.

This picture shows how one environment changed.

My picture shows the place before the change and after the change.

Before	After

What variable changed?

These are some effects of that change.

ASSESSMENT

Did you learn from my report?

If you did, you can answer these questions. Here are questions I made up about this part of science.

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