

## ECOSYSTEMS

### Performance Standard 17B.F

Using pictures or photographs make a collage of the local ecosystem and another collage of an ecosystem in another area of the United States and compare the two with a Venn diagram accordingly:

- *Knowledge*: identify items that could be part of a local ecosystem and items of an ecosystem in another area;
- *Reasoning*: compare the two ecosystems showing similarities and differences in each; and
- *Communication*: make a collage of both ecosystems, create a Venn diagram to show the similarities and differences and write a summary that is well-organized, well-focused and well-detailed; express all ideas in a way that provides evidence of knowledge and reasoning processes.

### Procedures

1. *In order to analyze and explain characteristics and interactions of Earth's physical systems (17B)*, students should experience sufficient learning opportunities to develop the following:
  - Describe ecosystems from local to global scales and the difference between them using photographs and other media as illustrations.
2. Have students review and discuss the assessment task and how the rubric will be used to evaluate their work.
3. The student should have learning experiences about ecosystems of the local community and of other areas of the United States. Also, they should understand Venn diagrams and how they can be used.
4. Have students use photographs and/or pictures that illustrate different components of the local ecosystem to create a collage surrounding a map of the local community. Connect each photo/picture with string or yarn to its site on the map.
5. Have students use photographs, postcards, and magazine pictures that show components of a different ecosystem somewhere in the United States to create a second collage surrounding a map of the place you have chosen. Connect each photo, postcard, and magazine ring picture with string or yarn to its site on the map.
6. Have students develop a Venn diagram that shows the similarities and differences in the two ecosystems.
7. Have students write a one-paragraph description of each of the ecosystems in your collages.
8. Evaluate each student's work using the Social Science Rubric as follows and add the scores to determine the performance level:
  - *Knowledge*: the identification of items in the two ecosystems is complete and accurate.
  - *Reasoning*: the descriptions and illustrations explain the similarities and differences of the ecosystems and are well-reasoned and logical.
  - *Communication*: the collage, Venn diagram and written summary are well-organized, well-focused and well-detailed; the knowledge and skills were completely and effectively communicated.

### Examples of Student Work not available

### Time Requirements

- Two fifty-minute time periods

### Resources

- Camera
- Magazines, newspapers, Internet, or other sources of pictures of ecosystem components
- Poster board
- Maps of the local community map and other places in the U.S.
- String
- Paste, tape, or staples
- Writing pad
- Social Science Rubric