

Value Activity 6

Value Environmental Education

Objective To teach students about different ecosystems and the animals that live in them.

Vocabulary *desert, rain forest, savanna, tundra; fall, spring, summer, winter; bird, camel, coyote, elephant, fox, frog, giraffe, jaguar, lion, monkey, polar bear, rabbit, snake, wolf, zebra*

Materials pictures of an ecosystem and the animals and plants that live in it (e.g., the desert: snake, cactus, owl, tarantula, cricket, coyote, rabbit), scissors, glue sticks, paper (1 sheet per team), colored pencils

Preparation Make copies of Worksheet 6 (1 per student).

Warm-up

Ecosystems

Display the picture of the ecosystem (see *Materials*). Explain to the class that an ecosystem is a group of animals and plants that live together and that depend on one another. Display first the pictures of the animals that live in the ecosystem, and then the plants. Tell students how each of them depends on another (e.g., *A rabbit eats the cricket. The snake eats the rabbit. The coyote eats the snake.*).

1 Read about the different ecosystems.

Hand out copies of Worksheet 6 (see *Preparation*). Read the paragraph about the rain forest and have students follow along. Pause to clarify unfamiliar words.

Next, invite students to look at the pictures at the bottom of the page and find the animals that belong to that ecosystem. Continue this way with the rest of the ecosystems.

♦ Cut and glue.

Ask students to cut out the strip of animals and to separate the groups. Have them refer back to the text to find out which ecosystem corresponds to each group of animals. Then ask them to glue the animals on to the correct ecosystem. Monitor and do a visual check of students' worksheets.

Wrap-up

Food Chain

Divide the class into small groups. Assign one of the four ecosystems to each. Distribute paper and have students take out their colored pencils. Invite students to make a drawing representing the interdependence of animals in that ecosystem. Demonstrate this on the board first:

