

Options EHS Ecology	Scope and Sequence	
Unit Lesson	Objectives	
Scientific Inquiry and Analysis		
Scientific Inquiry		
	Describe the steps involved in scientific inquiry.	
	Differentiate between an observation and an inference.	
	Explain the relationship between variables and controls in an experiment.	
	Compare and contrast scientific theories and scientific laws.	
Laboratory Tools and Safety		
	Describe the use of various common laboratory tools.	
	Differentiate between light, dissecting, and electron microscopes.	
	Identify safety equipment found in a science lab.	
	Explain the importance of following common lab rules and procedures.	
Scientific Measurement		
	Explain the purpose of utilizing the metric system in scientific measurement.	
	Identify the basic SI units utilized in scientific measurement.	
	Calculate values utilizing the metric conversion process.	
	Describe the use of significant figures and rounding in scientific measurement.	
Topic Test		
Introduction to Ecology		
Ecology 101		
	Describe the levels of organization in the biosphere.	
	Identify the major biomes found on Earth.	
	Compare and contrast major ecosystems found on Earth.	

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		Skills used: create a flow chart, compare and contrast
	Ecology 102	
		Identify factors that can cause change within an ecosystem.
		Evaluate the effects of different factors on ecosystem stability.
		Describe changes that can occur within an ecosystem.
		Skills used: understanding cause and effect, making logical connections, interpreting observations
	Trophic Levels and Food Webs	
		Explain how relationships between organisms in an ecosystem contribute to energy flow within a food chain.
		Analyze the effects of changes in populations on food web dynamics.
		Differentiate between three types of energy pyramids.
		Analyze relationships between producers, consumers, and decomposers in an ecosystem.
		Skills used: compare and contrast, create a structure diagram, understanding cause and effect, interpreting observations
	Adaptation	
		Describe the development of the theory of evolution.
		Explain the theory of evolution.
		Relate adaptations of organisms to resource competition.
		Skills used: create a timeline, making logical connections
	Global Connection: Changing Migratory Patterns	
		Explain how migratory patterns change in response to alterations in an ecosystem.
	Topic Test	
Habi	eats	

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	Skills Lesson: Contrasting Observations or Objects	
		List characteristics of two or more observable events or objects.
		Organize characteristics on a chart or graph.
		Distinguish differences between the two events or objects.
	Organismal Relationships	
		Describe three types of interactions between organisms in an ecosystem.
		Compare and contrast mutualism, parasitism, and commensalism.
		Explain the effects of competitive exclusion on an ecosystem.
		Skills used: compare and contrast, understanding cause and effect
	Biodiversity	
		Analyze the effects of local evolution or migration on an ecosystem.
		Predict the impact of removing or adding organisms on a food chain.
		Explain how changes in biodiversity impact an ecosystem.
		Skills used: making predictions, making logical connections
	Land Habitats	
		Differentiate between biotic and abiotic factors in various ecosystems.
		Explain the adaptations of indigenous species to their respective ecosystems.
		Skills used: compare and contrast
	Aquatic Habitats	
		Compare and contrast the components of marine and freshwater ecosystems.
		Differentiate between terrestrial and aquatic energy pyramids.
		Skills used: compare and contrast

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	Topic Test	
Popu	lation Dynamics	
	Population Size	
		Identify biotic and abiotic factors that limit population growth.
		Evaluate the effect of various factors on population size.
		Analyze population patterns within ecosystems.
		Skills used: interpreting data, understanding cause and effect, making logical connections
	Population Genetics	
		Describe the effect of genetics on the growth rate and carrying capacity of a population.
		Evaluate the effects of events on gene flow.
		Skills used: interpreting data, understanding cause and effect
	Determining Population Size	
		Compare and contrast various methods of determining population size.
		Discriminate between major population growth models.
		Compute population density.
		Skills used: interpreting data, compare and contrast, calculating data
	Measuring Populations	
		Compare and contrast various types of population distribution.
		Differentiate between stabilizing, disruptive, and directional selection utilizing a graph.
		Illustrate the structure of a given population demographic.
		Skills used: compare and contrast, create a structure diagram, interpreting data
	Global Connection: Human Impact on Population Size	

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	Evaluate human impact on wildlife population size.
Topic Test	
Arid and Semi-Arid Biomes	
Skills Lesson: Making Comparisons	
	Identify like systems or events to be compared and contrasted.
	List characteristics of the compared systems or events.
	Group characteristics by similarities and differences.
	Contrast unlike characteristics of two or more phenomena.
Characteristics of Biomes	
	Identify the characteristics used to define all biomes.
	Summarize the history of biomes on Earth.
	Describe the impact of humanity on Earth's biomes.
	Compare and contrast artificial and natural changes within a biome.
	Skills used: compare and contrast, understanding cause and effect, identifying trends
Desert and Desert-Scrub Biomes	
	Identify the characteristics of desert and desert-scrub biomes.
	Evaluate ways organisms have adapted to desert and desert-scrub environments.
	Skills used: making logical connections, compare and contrast
The Chaparral	
	Identify the characteristics of chaparral biomes.
	Evaluate ways organisms have adapted to chaparral.
	Skills used: making logical connections

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Alpine and Taiga Biomes	
	Identify the characteristics of the alpine and taiga biomes.
	Evaluate ways organisms have adapted to the alpine and taiga biomes.
	Skills used: making logical connections, compare and contrast
The Tundra	
	Identify the characteristics of the tundra.
	Evaluate ways organisms have adapted to the tundra.
	Skills used: making logical connections
Topic Test	
Temperate, Wet, and Aquatic Biomes	
Savanna and Grassland Biomes	
	Identify the characteristics of the savanna and grassland biomes.
	Evaluate ways organisms have adapted to the savanna and grasslands.
	Skills used: making logical connections, compare and contrast
Deciduous Forests	
	Identify the characteristics of deciduous forests.
	Evaluate ways organisms have adapted to deciduous forests.
	Skills used: making logical connections
The Rainforest	
	Identify the characteristics of the rainforest.
	Evaluate ways organisms have adapted to the rainforest.
	Skills used: making logical connections

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Freshwater and Marine Bior	nes
	Identify characteristics that are unique to each of the aquatic biomes.
	Compare and contrast the adaptations of organisms in the aquatic biomes to their respective environments.
	Describe how humans utilize resources from each of the aquatic biomes.
	Explain how human understanding of aquatic ecosystems has changed throughout history.
	Skills used: compare and contrast, identifying trends
Global Connection: Why Inv	vasive Species
	Relate the ability of invasive species to thrive in their new habitat to resource competition.
Topic Test	
Cumulative Test Review	

Cumulative Exam