

Lab Activity 2: Which Abiotic and Biotic Factors Are Found in an Ecosystem?

In this activity, you will explore the kinds of organisms that live in an ecosystem and how they are affected by the abiotic factors there.

PROCEDURE

1 Read the description of the ecosystem assigned by your teacher.

2 Make a list of the abiotic factors that are part of that ecosystem.

3 Make a list of all the biotic factors that are part of that ecosystem.

4 Use the drawing materials to make a sketch of your ecosystem. Be sure to include all the abiotic factors you listed in Step 2 and the biotic factors from Step 3.

5 Choose one of the organisms from your drawing. What is the relationship between this organism and the abiotic factors in the ecosystem?

6 What is the relationship between the organism you chose in Step 5 and the other living things in the ecosystem?

7 Choose one abiotic factor from your drawing that could change over time. Explain how this change would affect the organisms in the ecosystem.

OBJECTIVES

- Identify the abiotic and biotic factors in an ecosystem.
- Draw a sketch of an ecosystem.
- Describe the types and variety of organisms that can be supported by the abiotic factors in an ecosystem.

MATERIALS

For each group

- habitat description cards
- pencils, colored (or other drawing tools)
- drawing paper