



Ecosystem Architects

Build a unique ecosystem using plants and animals from the Zoo

Location in the Zoo: Throughout the Zoo

Materials: Pencil

Activity: Design your own, imaginary ecosystem based on the plants and animals at the Cincinnati Zoo and what those plants and animals need to survive. Read the exhibit signs to get helpful information and observe the plants and animals around the Zoo!



First, describe what your environment will be like using abiotic components:

Abiotic Factors

<p>Temperature Range & Average Weather</p>	
<p>Description of Geography <i>(ex. Hills, Mountains, Plains, etc.)</i></p>	
<p>Amount and Location of Water <i>(ex. Ocean, Pond, etc)</i></p>	
<p>Soil Type <i>(ex. Sandy, Clay, Dry, Muddy, etc)</i></p>	

Based on the abiotic factors you chose, choose the biotic factors that would most likely survive in that type of eco-system. Remember, these plants and animals don't *actually* have to live together in reality, but make choices that would help these animals survive in that environment.

My Biological Community	
Producers	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
Primary Consumers	1.
	2.
	3.
Secondary Consumers	1.
	2.
	3.
Decomposers	1.
	2.

Predict what type of human interactions could affect your imaginary ecosystem. Are these positive or negative interactions? What kinds of impact do they have?

Describe 2 symbiotic relationships in your ecosystem. Are they classified as parasitism, mutualism, or commensalism? How do they interact together?
