



THE CHALLENGE:



Habitat loss poses the greatest threat to species. The world's forests, swamps, plains, lakes, and other habitats continue to disappear as they are harvested for human consumption and cleared to make way for agriculture, housing, roads, pipelines, etc.

We can make a difference by learning more about our local habitats.

Your challenge is to observe and compare 2 circular sections of Earth (hula hoop size or larger!). Which plot has the greatest number of species? Can you identify them all? What questions do you have based on your observations?

~ STEAM TEAM ~
Create, Test, Improve

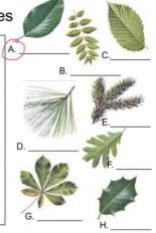
Learning Activities

Science/Language Arts/Social Studies:

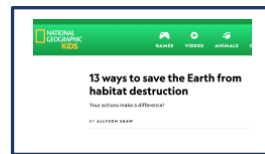
After careful observation, decide on a way to classify the various examples of leaves, insects or flowers from your challenge in your journal. You can use drawings, a table or create a [Dichotomous Key](#) to help you classify.

Dichotomous Key For Leaves

1. a. Needle leaves go to 2
- b. Non-needle leaves go to 3
2. a. Needles are clustered Pine
- b. Needles are in singles Spruce
3. a. Simple leaves (single leaf) go to 4
- b. Compound leaves (made of "leaflets") go to 7
4. a. Smooth edged go to 5
- b. Jagged edge go to 6
5. a. Leaf edge is smooth Magnolia
- b. Leaf edge is lobed White Oak
6. a. Leaf edge is small and tooth-like Elm
- b. Leaf edge is large and thorny Holly
7. a. Leaflets attached at one single point Chestnut
- b. Leaflets attached at multiple points Walnut



How do you think this habitat has changed over time? What positive or negative effects have humans had on this area?

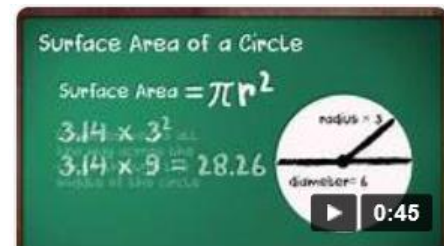


Read these 13 simple tips about how you can help protect habitats around you. Your actions make a difference!

Numeracy:

Using the hula hoop or your circular object you used for the challenge, find the following information:

Diameter: _____
Radius: _____
Circumference: _____
Surface Area: _____



Click the photo for a quick lesson on surface area of a circle.

The Arts:

Edible Art! Put on your chef's hat and try creating a snack that is ALMOST too beautiful to eat! Bonus points if it's all healthy! Check out Canada's food guide [here](#) for more information on healthy foods.



Habitat Search

S	D	N	A	L	S	S	A	R	G	Coral	Tundra
E	L	G	N	U	J	F	E	E	R	Reef	Grasslands
T	U	N	D	R	A	P	O	O	L	Tidal	Jungle
U	O	V	G	D	E	S	E	R	T	Pool	Desert
T	I	D	A	L	L	A	R	O	C		