

Title: Ecosystem: Food Chain
Content Area: Science
NC SCOS or Common Core Objective(s): 5.L.2 Understand the interdependence of plants and animals with their ecosystem
Rationale/Relationship to Text: The pond that Catherine loves so much is a natural ecosystem. The fishbowl is a man made ecosystem. What are similarities and differences regarding the natural habitat and man made habitats?
Instructions/Procedures: The students will be asked about the fishbowl and why there is the rule, "No toys in the fish tank." Is the fish tank a natural habitat or man made? How do you know? What do the fish need to survive that they cannot get in a man made habitat that must be provided by men? The students need to make a connection between what an ecosystem is and how it is affected by new organisms entering into their system. The class as a whole will create their own class ecosystem using the following link: http://www.ehow.com/how_6105802_make-simple-ecosystem.html Observations can be made from the ecosystem and a food chain can be developed. The food chain can be developed using: http://www.vtaide.com/png/foodwebS.htm then click on "creating a possible food web." Which things serve as decomposers, producers, and consumers?
Materials: computer access internet access aquarium soil earthworms light source grass seeds water grasshoppers
References: Lord, C. (2006). <i>Rules</i> . New York: Scholastic http://www.ehow.com/how_6105802_make-simple-ecosystem.html http://www.vtaide.com/png/foodwebS.htm