

Little Read 2013: *Rules* by Cynthia Lord

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| Title: No Toys in the Fish Tank-The Ecosystem of a Pond |
| Content Area: Science |
| NC SCOS or Common Core Objective(s): 5.L2 Understand the interdependence of plants and animals with their ecosystem. |
| Rationale/Relationship to Text: Making a comparison between a fish tank and the fish in the pond where Catherine goes swimming. |
| Instructions/Procedures: Virtual tour of a pond (http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/index.html?http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/ponddip/index.html) The students can go to this site independently, in small groups, or as whole class. They will explore the pond in the jar and complete a venn diagram comparing and contrasting what the life and ecosystem in the pond is compared to the life of the fish in the fish tank in the book. Some questions to prompt the students: What life is in the ecosystem? What is necessary to sustain life? What factors control the ecosystem? (people, environmental factors etc...) The students can share their venn diagrams to make sure that all ideas are covered. The students will determine pH of pond water (you can research and find the pH if you don't have access to pond water) and the pH of tap water to compare the difference. You can also test the water of fish tank water if you have access to one at your school. |
| Materials: Computers Paper for Venn Diagram. Litmus paper (pH paper) (can be found in the fish section of WalMart) Tap water Pond water |
| References: http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/index.html?http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/ponddip/index.html |



