



## Build An Ecosystem

Target Level 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> graders

Students learn about the dependency between living and non-living components of a temperate forest ecosystem. They experience the basics of species interdependency within the ecosystem and its various habitats.

Format and Requirements:

A little set up ahead of time is required, and a flat surface like a table top or even the floor is needed so every student can observe the display. Binder includes setup instruction, background information and additional resources.

Standards of Learning:

Science

2.5 The student will investigate and understand that living things are a part of a system. Key ideas include:

- a) plants and animals are interdependent with their living and nonliving surroundings;
- b) an animal's habitat provides all of its basic needs; and
- c) habitats change over time due to many influences.

Standards of Learning Continued:

3.5 The student will investigate and understand that aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems support a diversity of organisms. Key ideas include:

- a) ecosystems are made of living and nonliving components of the environment; and
- b) relationships exist among organisms in an ecosystem.

4.3 the student will investigate and understand that organisms, including humans, interact with one another and with the nonliving components in the ecosystem. Key ideas include:

- a) interrelationships exist in populations, communities, and ecosystems; and
- b) food webs show the flow of energy within an ecosystem.