Wetlands Habitat

5TH GRADE • 6TH GRADE

SUMMER LESSONS

FRESNO CHAFFEE

Extended Learning Partnership

Wetlands

Today you learned about the Wetlands ecosystem. An ecosystem is where living and nonliving things all work together in their environment. Living things or once living things are called biotic. The prefix "bio" means life. Biotic factors include animals, plants, fungi and even bacteria. What are some plants you can think of? Can you give some examples of fungus? What about a dead tree, was it once alive? These are just some of the aspects that are biotic in an ecosystem. If "bio" means life then abiotic means non-living or was never alive. This can include dirt, rocks, temperature, gases, water, etc. Can you think of some other things that are abiotic? All these factors play a major role in creating a viable ecosystem.

Activity:

- Watch the video again and write down all the living (biotic) and non-living (abiotic) things you can see.
- Go outside in your ecosystem and try to list everything biotic and abiotic you see. Did you find everything? Try to quiz a member of your family and see how many they get right?

Writing prompt:

Imagine an ecosystem with only biotic aspects. There is no dirt, rocks, gases or temperature. Pick an ecosystem and explain what it would look like and how it would survive with only biotic factors.

Think of these questions as you write.

- What are some challenges the biotic factors might face?
- Which, if any, biotic factors could survive in an ecosystem?
- Which animals in your ecosystem would survive the longest without abiotic factors? How?

Math:

- We have 37 flamingos at the Fresno Chaffee Zoo. Every year our animals have exams performed by our veterinarian staff. On Wednesday, 3/5 of our flamingos will have their exam. How many flamingos will have their exam on Wednesday?
- The alligator at the zoo was observed to be sleeping 40% of the day. How many hours was the alligator asleep for?

Check for Understanding:

- You notice a dead floating log in a wetland, would this log be biotic or abiotic? Why?

FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO