

Preserving Biodiversity

Explore Activity

Divide the class into six groups. Assign one of Earth's spheres (lithosphere, hydrosphere, or atmosphere) to groups 1, 2, and 3, and then do the same for groups 4, 5, and 6. Students will identify and gather information about how the use, protection, and conservation of natural resources from one of Earth's spheres impacts the environment from one generation to the next.

Students can use the websites listed on the 5E Plan, as well as others, to take notes on and answer the following questions:

1. What natural resources are used from this sphere?
2. How are they obtained? Does the process of obtaining the resources impact the environment? How?
3. How are these resources used? Does the use of these resources impact the environment? How?
4. How does the use of these resources affect biodiversity?
5. Why is biodiversity important to the biosphere?
6. How does the use of these resources affect current and future generations?
7. Can the resources be used sustainably? How?

8. How can the protection and conservation of these resources impact the environment for current and future generations?

9. Why is it important to use resources in a sustainable way?