STUDENT NOTEBOOK

Inside the Outdoors at UPPER NEWPORT BAY

NAME: SCHOOL: TEACHER:



STUDENT ACTIVITY #1 The Missing Piece Ecology of Upper Newport Bay

Ecosystems are found everywhere in nature. An ecosystem is a place where living things, such as plants and animals, and nonliving things, such as the sun and water, interact. Ecosystems can be any size. Upper Newport Bay is an estuary, an ecosystem where freshwater and saltwater meet and mix together.

On the next page you will find a picture of an estuary ecosystem.

- 1. Look at the picture of the estuary ecosystem. What living and nonliving things do you find in this ecosystem?
- 2. Glue the picture onto the back of the puzzle page. You should see a puzzle outline on one side and a picture on the other side.
- 3. Cut along the dark lines of the puzzle pieces.
- 4. Remove one puzzle piece and set it aside.
- 5. Mix up the remaining puzzle pieces.
- 6. Put the puzzle back together. What piece is missing from the picture? Write your answer below.
- 7. What would happen to the estuary if this item were to disappear forever? Write your answer below.





STUDENT ACTIVITY #2 Estuary Crossword Puzzle

You can find some of the words listed below in the crossword puzzle clues on this page. Cross the words out as you find them and use the clues to complete the puzzle on the next page!

	Back Bay Bloom Coot Egret Estuary A	Indians Into Kites Marshes Ocean <u>CROSS</u>	Fresh Fossils Habitat Hawk Heron	I S	Rail(Clapper) Root Sails Salt	Shark Shell Shore Soil DOWN	Survive Terns Tides Zone
1.	A Great blue <u>h</u>		is tall.	1.	A <u>h</u> plant or anir	nal lives.	is a place where a
2.	A pelican dive	s <u>i</u>	the water.	4.			
3.	Small birds that look like gulls are called					water.	
	<u>t</u>			6.	\underline{S} is another word for dirt.		
4.	Some boats are \underline{s}			9.		m where fresh	n water meets salt
5.	Changing ocea <u>t</u>		s are called.	10.	Gabrielino <u>I</u> California b	efore the Spar	lived inlish came.
7.	A snail live in	its <u>s</u>		11.	Food, water	and space are	e needed for plants
8.	We live by the Pacific O				to <u>s</u>		
12.	"She sells sea :	shells by the		13.	We will visi <u>B</u>	t the Newport	<u>B</u>
13.	In the spring, v <u>b</u>	what do flowe	ers do?	15.	-	areas are also	called
14.	Birds whose na that you fly are			16.	Animals traj <u>f</u>		ud may turn into
16.	We drink <u>f</u>	, n	not salt,	17.	A <u>h</u>	is a large	bird that hunts.
19.	water.			18.	The undergr	-	plant is called the
	hunts.			20.		<u>Z</u>	
23.	An <u>e</u>	is a larg	is a large white bird		A black bird is called a <u>c</u>		nown as a mud hen,
				22.	The Light-fo endangered	poted clapper species.	<u>r</u> is an



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STUDENT ACTIVITY #3 Migration Aggravation

1. Have each player select a bird game piece.

cut here

- 2. As a group, choose the order in which to move the game pieces (clockwise or counter clockwise).
- 3. The first player places his or her game piece on the box marked "start."
- **4**. The first player tosses a coin. If the coin lands on "heads," the player moves the game piece forward one space. If the coin lands on "tails," the player moves the game piece forward two spaces. After the first player moves, the second player takes a turn. Continue playing.
- 5. As players move their game pieces from space to space, they must read the contents of the boxes out loud.
- 6. The first person to land on the box marked "finish" wins the game.

Willet

Tern





STUDENT NOTEBOOK PAGE Bird Beak Data Sheet

Food Items	Spoonbill Bird	Clothespin Bird	Chopstick Bird	Tweezer Bird
Toothpick Worms				
Marble Snails				
Paperclip Beetles				
Food Items "Feeding Frenzy" Distributed Simultaneously	Spoonbill Bird	Clothespin Bird	Chopstick Bird	Tweezer Bird
Toothpick Worms				
Marble Snails				
Paperclip Beetles				
TOTAL				

Birds of the Open Water



Western grebe



Ruddy duck



Eared grebe



American coot

Birds of the Mudflats



Marbled godwit



Black-bellied plover



Least sandpiper



American avocet



Dunlin



Long-billed curlew



Willet



Dowitcher

Birds of the Marshes



Light-footed clapper rail



Great blue heron



Red-winged blackbird



Common egret



Savannah sparrow



Snowy egret

Birds of the Air



Ring-billed gull



Turkey vulture



Forster's tern



Red-tailed hawk

STUDENT ACTIVITY #4 Build a Bird Feeder

Bird feeders are easy and fun to build. They attract many interesting birds!

You can build your own or wild birdseed bird feeder following the directions below. You may ask a parent or teacher to help you.

FEEDER

What you will need:

- pine cone (or empty toilet tissue roll)
- suet or lard

- heavy piece of string
- birdseed or cornmeal

Take a pine cone (any size or shape) or empty toilet tissue roll and tie the string around the top (the excess string length will be used to hang the feeder.) With a butter knife, cover the pine cone or roll with lard. Then, roll the coated feeder in birdseed or corn meal. Hang the feeder outside.

WILD BIRD SEED FEEDER

What you will need:

- empty plastic milk jug
- heavy string

- thin stick (for perch)–about 12" long
 - wild birdseed

Cut two 3" square windows out of the bottom third of the milk jug on opposite sides of the jug. Punch a hole (large enough for the stick) just below each window. Push the stick through to make two perches on either side of the jug. Pour wild birdseed in the bottom of the jug. Tie the string around the mouth of the jug and hang the feeder outside.



STUDENT ACTIVITY #5 Become a Backyard Birder

You can watch for birds right from your home or classroom! Here are a few helpful tips to help you recognize the various species of birds you will encounter.

OBSERVING BIRDS

- Ears Look carefully for birds any time you are outside or looking through a window.
- Equipment Binoculars are not necessary, but they are helpful to see birds that are far away. If you don't have a pair, try making them! Tape two empty toilet paper rolls together lengthwise (you may also use a paper towel roll or plastic wrap roll cut in half). Looking through the rolls will help you to focus on a particular area. Attach string to your new "binoculars" so that you can wear them around your neck when they are not in use.
- Ears You can usually hear a bird before you see it. Be sure to be quiet and listen carefully.
- **Guide** A bird field guide is very useful. The local library probably has several field guides to help you identify the birds you see.
- Feeder You can build your own feeder using the instructions mentioned earlier in this notebook. A feeder will attract birds so you can observe them in your own area.
- Patience A good "birder" is careful, quiet, and willing to wait!

WHAT DO I DO NOW?

Write your observations in a journal or notebook. You may also use this notebook to record any interesting observations about nature. Begin to keep a checklist of birds you have spotted. The Audubon Society can provide a checklist of local birds. Become a "bird brain" by reading more about birds. Use the public library to look for bird field guides, videos, and other information about birds to increase your knowledge.



STUDENT NOTEBOOK PAGE Plant Journal

List the steps you followed in setting up the plant experiment:

What do you think is going to happen to each group of plants? When you make a prediction about what may happen in a scientific experiment, you are forming a **hypothesis**. Write your hypothesis below:

After you have completed the experiment, compare the results to the hypothesis you wrote at the start of the experiment. In the space below, write a conclusion about this experiment. Use the observations you made during the experiment to support your conclusion. (Use the back side of the page, if necessary.)



STUDENT ACTIVITY #6 Plankton, Plankton Everywhere

Plankton are tiny organisms that live in the water. Many animals eat plankton so they are a very important part of the food chain!

Plankton are so small that a special instrument is needed to see them. To discover the instrument needed, fill in the blanks below with words that match the definitions provided. Then, turn to the next page and color in the shapes which contain the words you found.

Example: A plant that has adapted to salt water is called <u>pickleweed</u>.

- 1. A behavior or characteristic that helps a plant or animal survive in the environment.
- 2. All the living and nonliving things that interact in a particular area.
- 3. A series of events in which one organism eats another.
- 4. A tool or other object used by ancient people.
- 5. A group of plants or animals whose survival is in danger; only a small number of them remain.
- 6. The study of people from ancient civilizations.
- 7. An ecosystem where freshwater and saltwater mix.

Plankton, Plankton Everywhere



STUDENT NOTEBOOK PAGE Memories of the Bay

STUDENT NOTEBOOK PAGE How to Recycle

HOW TO RECYCLE GLASS

As much as possible, buy returnable or reusable bottles. To prepare glass for recycling, do the following:

- Rinse the glass. You do not need to remove the labels.
- Check with the recycling center to see if you need to remove all metal caps and rings.
- Check with the recycling center to see if you need to separate glass containers by color.

HOW TO RECYCLE PAPER

Newsprint:

- Stack newspaper in a fire-safe area.
- Check with the recycling center to see if newspapers should be tied in stacks, or placed in paper bags.

Other papers:

- Corrugated cardboard Flatten for easy storage and transportation. Store in a fire-safe area.
- High Grades (computer paper, tab cards, and ledger paper). Check to see what types of paper the recycling center accepts.

HOW TO RECYCLE ALUMINUM

- Check to make certain the cans are all aluminum.
- Rinse the cans. (You may wish to flatten to save storage and transportation space.)
- Separate aluminum cans from other aluminum products (i.e., TV dinner trays and foil).

HOW TO RECYCLE TIN CANS (These are typical food cans: 1% tin, 99% steel)

- Rinse and remove labels.
- Remove both ends and flatten.

HOW TO RECYCLE PLASTIC

- Check for the recyclable plastic identification code on bottom of container.
- Check for recyclable lids and caps.
- Rinse out containers.
- Take off labels.

HOW TO RECYCLE OTHER MATERIALS

Call your State Waste Management Board or Department of Public Works for information on how to recycle oil, styrofoam, batteries, tires, paint, antifreeze, appliances, or other materials.

Visit http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Recycle/ to locate the recycling centers nearest to you.

STUDENT ACTIVITY #7 Vocabulary Define and Draw

Write the definition of each word on the lines provided in the boxes below. Draw a picture that shows an example of each vocabulary word.

natural resource

migration	

food chain	

	estuary	
		- - -

	conservation	
-		

STUDENT ACTIVITY #8 Vocabulary Word Match

Match the words with their definitions. Place the letter of the definition to the left of the word with which you match it.

Adaptation	A. A living thing that gets energy by eating other living things
Archaeologist	B. A guess based on what you know about why something is happening
Artifact	C. A tool or object used by ancient people
Classification	D. A material found in nature that is useful or necessary for living things
Coastal sage scrub	E. An ecosystem where fresh water and salt water mix
	F. The study of ecosystems
Conservation	G. A living thing that makes its own food
Consumer	H. An animal's journey to another region due to a change in the season
Decomposer	I. A behavior or characteristic that helps a plant or animal survive in the
Ecology	environment
Ecosystem	J. The grouping of things based on certain characteristics
Endangered species	K. A person who studies ancient peoples and civilizations
	L. A pile of trash
Estuary	M. A group of plants or animals whose survival is in danger because the population size is small
Food chain	
Inference	N. A series of events in which one organism eats another
Midden	O. The protections and wise use of natural resources
	P. All the living and nonliving things that interact in a particular area
Migration	Q. Use the senses to lean about objects and events
Natural resource	R. An ecosystem of short, drought adapted soft leafed shrubs, in which
Observe	California sagebrush is the most common species
Producer	S . A living thing that breaks down wastes and dead organisms

STUDENT ACTIVITY #9 Vocabulary Word Descriptions

Write phrases that describe the words listed below.

Example: nutrients – the chemical building blocks of living things.

Adaptation
Archaeologist
Artifact
Classification
Coastal sage scrub
Conservation
Consumer
Decomposer
Ecology
Ecosystem
Endangered species
Estuary
Food chain
Inference
Midden
Migration
Natural resource
Observe
Producer

VOCABULARY

Adaptation	A behavior or characteristic that helps a plant or animal survive in the environment
Archaeologist	A person who studies ancient peoples and civilizations
Artifact	A tool or object used by ancient people
Classification	The grouping of things based on certain characteristics
Coastal sage scrub	An ecosystem of short, drought adapted soft leafed shrubs, in wich California sagebrush is the most common species
Conservation	The protection and wise use of natural resources
Consumer	A living thing that gets energy by eating other living things
Decomposer	A living thing that breaks down wastes and dead organisms
Ecology	The study of ecosystems
Ecosystem	All the living and nonliving things that interact in a particular area
Endangered species	A group of plants or animals whose survival is in danger because the population size is small
Estuary	An ecosystem where fresh water and salt water mix
Food chain	A series of events in which one organism eats another
Inference	A guess based on what you know about why something is happening
Midden	A pile of trash
Migration	An animal's journey to another region due to a change in the season
Natural resource	A material found in nature that is useful or necessary for living things
Observe	Use the senses to learn about objects and events
Producer	A living that makes its own food