



Schoolyard Habitats and Animal Diversity 2nd Grade

Overview

Many arthropods (an organism that has an exoskeleton and jointed legs such as insects and arachnids) are found around the schoolyard. Students will use pitfall traps, a simple tool to collect ground insects and spiders, to investigate types of ground arthropods in two different habitats in the schoolyard and from one habitat in the open desert at the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park. They will use this information to make predictions about animals and plants.

Phenomena

The diversity of animal and plants varies in different habitats in the schoolyard and at the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park.

NGSS Standards

2-LS4-1 Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on the diversity of living things in each of a variety of different habitats.]

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
Planning & Carrying Out Investigations Asking Questions Analyzing & Interpreting Data Using Mathematics & Computational Thinking	LS4.D Biodiversity and Humans	Patterns

Common Core State Standards

2.MD.D.10 Draw a picture graph and a bar graph (with single-unit scale) to represent a data set with up to four categories. Solve simple put-together, take-apart, and compare problems using information presented in a bar graph.