



Desert Stories: Chihuahuan Desert Food Web and Species 5th Grade Classroom Module

Program Summary

Desert Stories consists of three, hour-long lessons delivered by staff from the Asombro Institute for Science Education in your classroom.

Lesson 1 – Students see a mystery animal (tadpole shrimp) from the Chihuahuan Desert. They discover more about it by reading the book One Day in the Desert. Then solve puzzles to build a food web around tadpole shrimp.

Lesson 2– Students learn how matter enters a food web through photosynthesis, and explore the important decomposers play in a food web.

Lesson 3– students are assigned a teaching station and practice teaching about Chihuahuan Desert food webs in preparation to share with younger students.

Phenomena

Matter moves among plants, animals, decomposers and the environment in a food web occurring in and around playas in the Chihuahuan Desert.

Plants get matter they need to grow from the air, not from the soil.

Next Generation Science Standards

5-LS1-1 Support an argument that plants get the materials they need for growth chiefly from air and water.

5-LS2-1 Develop a model to describe the movement of matter among plants, animals, decomposers and the environment.

Science & Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
Developing And Using Models	LS2.A: Interdependent relationships in ecosystems	Systems and System Models
Constructing Explanations And Designing Solutions	LS1.C: Organization for matter and energy flow in organisms	Energy and Matter
Engaging In Argument From Evidence		Patterns
Obtaining, Evaluating, And Communicating Information		

Common Core State Standards

RST.5.4 Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 5 topic or subject area.

SL.5.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 5 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

MATH.CONTENT.5.NBT.3: Read, write and compare decimals to thousandths.

MATH.CONTENT.5.NBT.5: Fluently multiply multi-digit whole numbers using standard algorithm

MATH.CONTENT.5.NBT.6: Find whole-number quotients of whole number with up to four-digit dividends and two-digit divisors.

MATH.CONTENT.5.NF.6: Solve real world problems involving multiplication of fractions and mixed numbers.

MATH.CONTENT.5.MD.3: Recognize volume as an attribute of solid figures and understand concepts of volume measurement.

Date: _____

Asombro staff: _____