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Student exploration forest ecosystem answer key

Student Exploration: Forest Ecosystem (ANSWER KEY) Download Student Exploration: Forest Ecosystem Vocabulary: consumer, decomposer, inorganic, organic, organism, population, producer Prior Knowledge Questions (Do these BEFORE using the Gizmo.) When a rancher puts cattle in a pasture, what happens to the amount of grass in it? If someone adds millions of small fish to a lake, how would the number of big fish change? Gizmo Warm-up The Forest Ecosystem Gizmo™ shows you the effects of adding organisms to, or taking them from, a forest. An organism is any living thing. To start, do the following: Press Reset on the Gizmo. Click Advance year a couple times to see two years of growth. Remove all deer from the forest by clicking the minus (-) button until none remain. Click Advance year a couple more times. Select the DATA tab. Select Pictograph and click the Tree to show the size of the tree population for the past several years. How did removing deer affect the tree population? Why do you think this happened? Under Choose organism, select the Mushroom. How did losing deer affect the mushroom population? Explain why this occurred. Activity A: Get the Gizmo ready: Trees Click Reset. Select the FOREST tab. Question: What role do trees play in the forest? Form hypothesis: Where do you think trees get the nutrients they need to grow? Predict: Based on your hypothesis, how will the tree population change if ALL other organisms (deer, bears, and mushrooms) are removed from the forest? Analyze: Remove ALL organisms except trees. Click Advance year a few times and select the DATA tab. Was your prediction correct? Explain what you found. Draw conclusions: Substances that contain carbon and are produced by living things are called organic. Examples of organic materials are sugar, blood, protein, and fat. Other materials, like water, carbon dioxide, oxygen, and ammonia, are called inorganic. Some living things, called producers, can produce the organic materials they need (like food) from inorganic matter. All other organisms are consumers; they consume organic matter since they cannot make it themselves. Do your results show you that trees are producers or consumers? Explain. Analyze: Click the FOREST tab. Click the plus (+) button for mushrooms several times. Click Advance year a few times. Select the DATA tab. How did adding mushrooms affect trees? Extend: The mushrooms thrived without hurting trees. How could this happen? Try for two possible explanations. Write your ideas in your notebook or on the back of this sheet. Activity B: Get the Gizmo ready: Bears Click Reset. Select the FOREST tab. Question: How do bears get the nutrients they need to live? Explore: Using the Gizmo, try to figure out what bears depend on for nutrition. Form hypothesis: How do bears get the energy and nutrients they need? Predict: Based on your hypothesis, which population(s) would be hurt if bears were added? Test: Click Reset. Click Advance year a couple times. Add as many bears to the forest as possible. Then go forward a couple more years. Select the DATA tab. Which populations were hurt by adding bears? Classify: Are bears producers or consumers? Explain your reasoning. Draw conclusions: An organism that breaks down organic matter into simpler materials (like carbon dioxide) is called a decomposer. Decomposers absorb nutrients from living things or the organic matter they leave behind. They do not need to kill to get their food. Do your results suggest bears are decomposers? Explain your reasoning. Challenge: Using the Gizmo, figure out what bears prefer to eat most. Write your results and reasoning in your notebook or on the back of this sheet. Activity C: Get the Gizmo ready: Mushrooms Click Reset. Select the FOREST tab (if necessary). Question: How do mushrooms get the nutrients they need to grow? Explore: Use the Gizmo to test if mushrooms feed on living things. Describe your trials and results in your notebook or on the back of this sheet. What did you find? Form hypothesis: How do mushrooms get their food? Predict: Based on your hypothesis, how will the mushroom population change when other organisms are added to the forest? Fill in the middle column below with your predictions. Test: Test your predictions with three separate trials. Write the results in the last column of the table above. Paste snapshots of the three line graphs into a blank document. Classify: Do your experiments suggest that mushrooms are decomposers (organisms that break organic matter down to simpler, inorganic matter)? Explain. Extend: If mushrooms were producers, how would your results in question 3 have been different? . . Name: Kayla Ramirez Date: 5/18/ Student Exploration: Forest Ecosystem Directions: Follow the instructions to go through thprompts in the orange boxes. e simulation. Respond to the questions and Vocabulary: consumer, decomposer, inorganic, organic, organism, population, producer Prior Knowledge Questions (Do these BEFORE using the Gizmo.) When a rancher puts cattle in a pasture, what happens to the amount of grass in it? The grass will get shorter or just disappear because cows eat grass. If someone adds thousands of small fish to a lake, how would the number of big fish change? the population of the big fish will go up because the big fish eat little fish. Gizmo Warm-up The Forest Ecosystem Gizmo shows you the effects of adding organisms thing. To start, do the following:to, or taking them from, a forest. An organism is any living • Click Advance year a couple times to see two years of growth. • Remove alluntil none remain. Deer from the forest by clicking the minus (-) button • Click Advance year a couple more times. Select the DATA tab. Selectpast several years. Pictograph and click the Tree to show the size of the tree population for the A. How did removing deer affect the tree population? the tree population increased B. Why do you think this happened? there wasn't any deer eating it 2. Under Choose organism , select the Mushroom. A. How did losing deer affect the mushrooms? mushrooms increased B. Explain why this may have happened. no one was eating it Reproduction for educational use only. Public sharingor posting prohibited. © 2020 ExploreLearning™ All rights reserved Activity A: Trees Get the Gizmo ready: • Click• Select the FOREST tab. Reset. Question: What role do trees play in the forest? 1. Form hypothesis: Where do you think trees get the nutrients they need to grow? they get their nutrients from the sun. 2. Predict: Based on your hypothesis, how will the tree popbears, and mushrooms) are removed from the forest? ulation change if ALL other organisms (deer, i don't think the population will change at all. it may even grow a little bit. 3. Analyze: Remove ALL organisms except trees. Clicktab. Was your prediction correct? Explain what you found Advance year. a few times and select the DATA the population of trees grew for a little bit but it stayed steady for the rest of the years. 4. Draw conclusions: Substances that contain carbon and organic. Examples of organic materials are sugar, blood, protein,are produced by living things are called and fat. Other materials, like water, carbon dioxide, oxygen, and ammonia, are calledproduce the organic materials they need (like food) from inorganic inorganic matter. All other organisms are. Some living things, called producers , can consumers ; they consume organic matter since they cannot make it themselves. Do your results show you that trees are producers or consumers? Explain. i would say the trees are producers because they prodand sunlight. uce their own energy using water 5. Analyze: Click the FOREST tab. Click the plus (year a few times. Select the DATA tab. How did adding mushroom +) button for mushrooms ms affect trees?several times. Click Advance it didn't do much, the population stayed the same. 6. Extend: The mushrooms thrived without hurting trees.explanations. Write your ideas in the space below. How could this happen? Try for two possible Because mushrooms are decomposers and thrive becausewon't harm trees. of dead things means that they Reproduction for educational use only. Public sharingor posting prohibited. © 2020 ExploreLearning™ All rights reserved

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