



ECOLOGY MODULE
FIELDWORK REPORT
FOR LEAVING CERTIFICATE STUDENTS



ECOSYSTEM _____

HABITAT _____

Name _____


School _____

Date _____

Experiments covered

- 1) To carry out **quantitative** and **qualitative** surveys of the habitat
- 2) To use simple keys to identify 5 plants and 5 animals in the habitat
- 3) Collecting animals in our habitat using collection equipment
- 4) To investigate 3 abiotic factors in the habitat

Procedure for Habitat Study

| | | | Tick  when task/experiment is completed |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|--------|--|
| Task 1: | Map and Orientation | 10 min | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Exp 1: | Quadrat study - % Cover | 25 min | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Exp 2: | Quadrat study - % Frequency | 15 min | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Exp 3: | Plant Identification | 20 min | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Exp 4: | Animal Identification | 20 min | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Task 2: | Check Pitfall Trap | 5 min | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Exp 5: | Line Transect and Abiotic Factors | 20 min | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Task 3: | Equipment Check and tidy-up | 5 min | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Task 1: Map and Orientation

Location _____

Weather _____

Type of Habitat _____

Habitat Map

Do a rough sketch of the habitat. First draw in the boundaries, then note any important features. Don't forget your compass points!

Legend



Exp 3: Plant Identification

Name 5 plants you find in the habitat. You can use the key provided to help you identify unknown plants. Draw a sketch of the plant's leaf in the space provided. Describe the plant's appearance. Write down an adaptation for the plant. Make sure two of the plants are trees.

Note: Please don't pick any plants!

1. _____

Description

Leaf Shape _____ Leaf edges _____ Leaf Texture _____

Leaf Veins _____ Notable Patterns _____ Height _____

Other Features _____

Adpatation _____

2. _____

Description

Leaf Shape _____ Leaf edges _____ Leaf Texture _____

Leaf Veins _____ Notable Patterns _____ Height _____

Other Features _____

Adpatation _____

Turn over to identify more plants

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Exp 3: Plant Identification (CONTINUED)

3. _____

Description

Leaf Shape _____ Leaf edges _____ Leaf Texture _____

Leaf Veins _____ Notable Patterns _____ Height _____

Other Features _____

Adpatation _____

4. _____

Description

Leaf Shape _____ Leaf edges _____ Leaf Texture _____

Leaf Veins _____ Notable Patterns _____ Height _____

Other Features _____

Adpatation _____

5. _____

Description

Leaf Shape _____ Leaf edges _____ Leaf Texture _____

Leaf Veins _____ Notable Patterns _____ Height _____

Other Features _____

Adpatation _____



Exp 4: Animal Identification

Collect 5 animals in the habitat using the equipment provided. You can use the identification key to help you identify unknown animals. Do a simple sketch of the collected animals in the space provided.

Note: Please make sure to return ALL animals to their habitat when you are finished!

1. _____

Role _____ Feeds on _____

Eaten by _____ Microhabitat _____

Other Features _____

Adpatation _____

2. _____

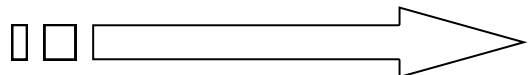
Role _____ Feeds on _____

Eaten by _____ Microhabitat _____

Other Features _____

Adpatation _____

Turn over to identify more animals





Exp 4: Animal Identification (CONTINUED)

3. _____

Role _____ Feeds on _____

Eaten by _____ Microhabitat _____

Other Features _____

Adpatation _____

4. _____

Role _____ Feeds on _____

Eaten by _____ Microhabitat _____

Other Features _____

Adpatation _____

5. _____

Role _____ Feeds on _____

Eaten by _____ Microhabitat _____

Other Features _____

Adpatation _____



Exp 4: Animal Collection Equipment

Name 4 different types of animal collection equipment you used. Write down the use for them, and an example of animals you would find in them. Draw diagrams of the equipment in the spaces provided.

1) Name: _____

Use: _____

Example: _____

DIAGRAM

2) Name: _____

Use: _____

Example: _____

DIAGRAM

3) Name: _____

Use: _____

Example: _____

DIAGRAM

4) Name: _____

Use: _____

Example: _____

DIAGRAM

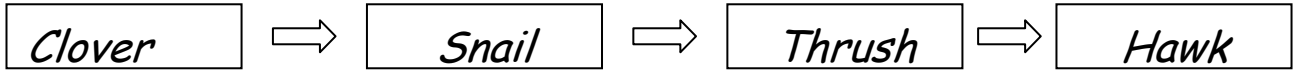
Task 2: Pitfall Trap

Make a note of the animals found in the pitfall trap. _____

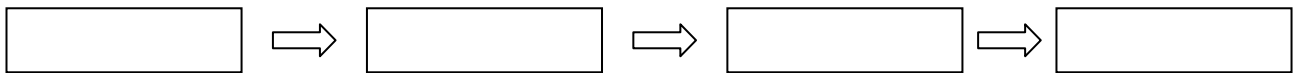


Energy Flow in the Habitat

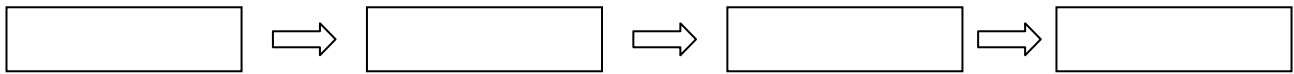
Sample Food Chain



Food Chain 1



Food Chain 2



Habitat Food Web

Write down some animals and plants you found in the habitat in the boxes provided, then join them up with arrows based on who eats who.

