

The Mountains Are Calling Me – Biodiversity



Before you begin, look through the John Muir graphic novel and read the section *The Mountains Are Calling Me*, which describes:

‘Between every two pines there is a door leading to a new way of life.

John Muir: This is the life.

Squirrel: Dinner!

Snake: Dinner!’

The aim of this activity is to find out about biodiversity and food chains by playing a board game created by the Woodland Trust as part of their Nature Detectives programme of activities.

To complete the game the food chains must be placed in the correct order.

Your teacher will download all the information you need to play this biodiversity/food chain game in pairs.

Note down everything you have found out about biodiversity and food chains here:

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John Muir, Earth - Planet, Universe: Pupil Activity Support Notes

Now read the information below to understand how the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award works and then share your above findings with your Eco-Schools committee.

If your school does not have an Eco-Schools committee already, it's easy to set one up! Discuss this idea with other pupils in your class and then apply if you would like to take things forward.

Eco-Schools: what is it all about?

By taking part in Eco-Schools your school could be awarded a Green Flag. Full details of everything you need to gain a Green Flag are on their website at:

<https://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/sustainable-development-education/eco-schools/award-criteria/>

The ten topics that schools can choose from are - Litter (constant), Water, Energy, Waste Minimisation, School Grounds, Biodiversity, Health & Wellbeing, Transport, Sustaining our World, Food and the Environment.

Litter plus two others are chosen as focus areas for the Action Plans to be worked on in the lead up to an assessment/reassessment.

Links to the wider community can include:

- Woodland groups
- Improving local habitats
- Or school visits from experts