

An ecosystem near you

Assignment: observe, draw, and explain

Choose a place to observe

Choose a garden, park, pond, or another place you can observe safely. You can also use a photograph supplied by your teacher. Leave plants and animals undisturbed.

Record what you find

List four living things and two nonliving parts of the environment.

Draw a possible food chain using organisms found there. Check feeding relationships in a book or a reliable reference.

Explain how a change in water or sunlight could affect one of the organisms.

Prepare your work

Submit one page with your observations, a labeled food-chain drawing, and a short explanation. List any references you used. Follow your teacher's instructions for the deadline and where to submit it.

Check before you submit

Name the organisms. Draw arrows in the direction of energy transfer. Separate what you observed from what you inferred or read in a reference.