



KINGDOMS OF LIFE IN THE SCHOOL FOREST

Nutshell

In this lesson, students will search the school forest property to locate and record organisms found within each kingdom of life. They will also record the identifying characteristics for each group.

Objectives

Students will be able to...

- Categorize organisms based on similar characteristics
- Explore the diversity of living organisms in the forest
- Observe similarities and differences among living creatures

Materials

- Clipboards
- Copies of the student worksheet
- Writing utensil
- Microscope, microscope slide, pipet
- Bucket (with water if no pond or natural water source is available on the forest property)

Teacher Preparation:

- notify the main office that you will be outside for a certain amount of time
- be sure students are appropriately dressed for the weather
- gather all needed materials
- classroom behavior guidelines are the same outdoors as they are in the classroom

Procedure

1. Students will use the *Kingdoms of Life* worksheet to complete their task.
2. Search the school forest property to locate organisms found within each kingdom. In order to see organisms in Kingdom Protista, the teacher should have a bucket to collect pond water or bucket with water to mix with soil to draw protists out of the soil and into the water. A microscope, slide, and pipet will also be needed to see the protists.
3. Record the identifying characteristics for each kingdom.
4. Sketch the organism(s) or use a camera to document the sighting. If using a camera, students should print the picture and paste in the appropriate category.
5. As a class or group the different words identified and selected by students.

Further Enrichment

- Create a poster that displays the biological diversity, which represents the kingdoms of life and creatures found at the school forest.
- Develop an identification booklet specific to your school forest which showcases the organisms students found on the forest property.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Kingdoms of Life in the School Forest

Directions: Search the school forest property to locate organisms found within each kingdom of life. Record the identifying characteristics for each family. Sketch the organism or use your digital camera to document your sighting, print the picture, and paste in the appropriate category.

Kingdom Animalia

Characteristics of the kingdom:

Organisms identified:

Organism 1:	Organism 2:	Organism 3:

Kingdom Archaeobacteria

Did you find any examples of Archaeobacteria? YES NO
Why or why not?

Kingdom Eubacteria

Characteristics of the kingdom:

Evidence of this organism:	Evidence of this organism:

Kingdom Fungi

Characteristics of the kingdom:

Organism 1:	Organism 2:	Organism 3:

Kingdom Plantae

Characteristics of the kingdom:

Organism 1:	Organism 2:	Organism 3:

Kingdom Protista

Characteristics of the kingdom:

Organism 1:	Organism 2: