**Primary and Secondary Succession**

**Activity 2**

**Standard**

BIO1.LS2.5 - Analyze examples of ecological succession, identifying, and explaining the order of events responsible for the formation of a new ecosystem in response to extreme fluctuations in environmental conditions or catastrophic events.

**Engage** – [Volcano Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-uOa2unXLlw) - Ask students to describe events that would start the process of succession over at the beginning. First with a partner and then share out to the class.

**Explore** – A short walk outside the school should reveal a variety of stages of succession. Allow students to select and area about 24” by 24”. Have them write a basic description of the space. Then return to the classroom.

**Explain –** [Video covering the basics of succession.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqEUzgVAF6g) The Amoeba Sisters YouTube channel is a great source for introducing topics. [Edpuzzle](https://edpuzzle.com) is a free website for teachers. A teacher can search this video and find one with built in questions for the students as they watch. The video is customizable.

**Extend –** This time take the students back on the same walk outside. Students should be directed to their 24” x 24” space. Each team of students should write a short story describing all the changes that could have happened to their selected plot of land over the last 10,000 years. Students should also be encouraged to look closely at their plot and add any observations to iNaturalist that seem appropriate.

**Evaluate -** [**Quizizz**](https://quizizz.com) **-** A quick search “primary and secondary succession” of this free website for teachers will reveal several great quiz games that can be played live in class or assigned for homework.