**Ecosystem Services**

Activity 3

**Standard**

BIO1.LS4.3 Identify ecosystem services and assess the role of biodiversity in support of these services. Analyze the role human activities have on disruption of these services.

**Engage**

Watch the video [Dennis the Bee Guy](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AoSelyeN_yc) Student teams should answer the following questions.

1. What is the value of the honey bee?
2. Could you put a dollar amount on this species?
3. Can the value of a species be measured in dollars?
4. What are some possible outcomes if we lost the honey bee?

**Explore**

There are many varying sources concerning Ecosystem Services. For this lesson focus on the value of each species individually and the value of species diversity in an area.

Introduce Ecosystem Services with this short video. - [Ecosystem Services](https://www.khanacademy.org/science/biology/biodiversity-and-conservation/ecosystems-ecosystem-services/v/ecosystem-services)

**Explain**

* 1. Students should revisit the data gathered at their 24” x 24” plot from the activity on succession.
  2. Students should share the relative value of the species observed. This value may be financial or the contribution to the ecosystem by the species.
     1. Are some more important than others? Why or Why not
     2. Do some species effect areas larger than the 24” by 24” plot?
     3. Ask student teams to list each species a in their plot and describe its value.

**Elaborate**

* 1. Student teams create a “Save the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ “Campaign
  2. The blank should be filled with the species the team feels is the most valuable to their 24” by 24” plot.
  3. Allow students to be creative with the media for the campaign. Video, Poster, Google Slide

**Evaluate**

* 1. Students participate in a mock fundraising event where each student can donate up to $100 fake dollars to various causes.
  2. Give each student two fake $50 bills
  3. Each species from the Elaborate activity will have a bucket.
  4. After the campaigns are viewed. Students then distribute their funds to the species they decide are the most valuable.
  5. Take time to discuss with student that the species who truly need help are not always the ones who get the most attention.