

How Do Ecosystems Change?



Think about: *What do you see in this image? What do you think will happen to this ecosystem? How do you think this ecosystem will recover from this fire?*

List three questions you have about how ecosystems change.

1. Ecosystems Can Change



Choose one of these ecosystem changes: a **flood**, a **dust storm**, a **volcano**, or a **forest fire**. Write about how you think it changes ecosystems.

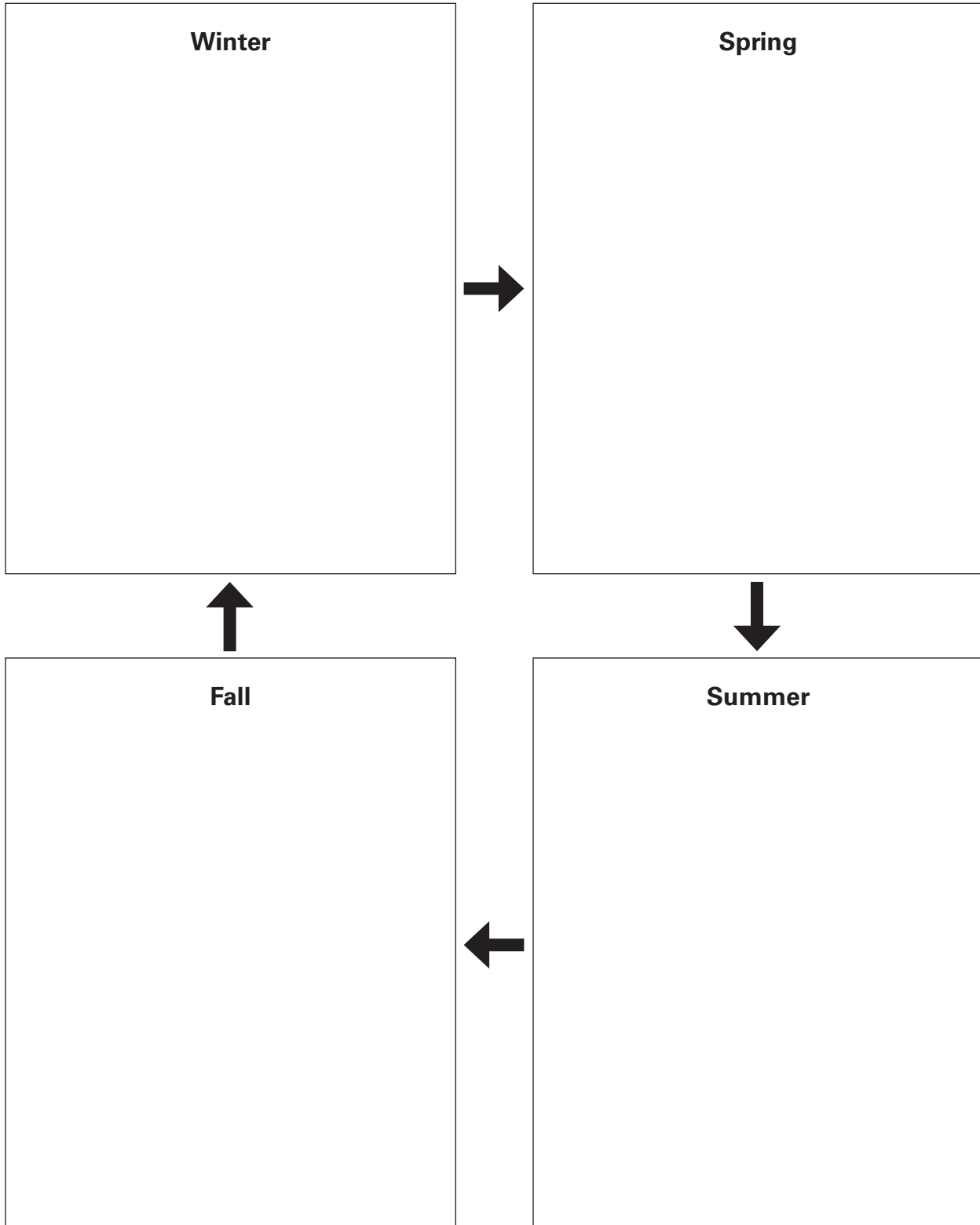
2. Disturbance Leads to Succession



Describe how forest ecosystem succession happens after a disturbance like a forest fire. Use the following terms in your answer: **pioneer**, **organism**, **trees**, and **forest fire**.

3. Changes with the Seasons

Think of an ecosystem near your home. Maybe it is a forest, or a park. Maybe it is a pond or even a garden. What does it look like during the different seasons? Draw four pictures below showing that ecosystem during winter, spring, summer, and fall.



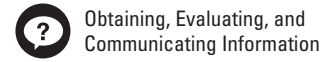
4. Climate Change and Ecosystems



Describe what happens to many ecosystems when the climate begins to warm. Use the following terms in your answer: **animal**, **plant**, **colder**, **north**, and **elevation**.

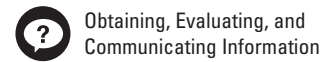
In this Visual Discovery, you will watch several silent videos depicting how ecosystems respond to change. You'll read additional text to learn more about the video. Then you will research one example in more depth and create a multimedia presentation about what you learned.

1) Circle your assigned topic:

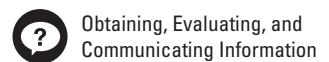


- | | |
|-----------|-----------------|
| logging | bird migration |
| landslide | glacial retreat |

2) With your partner, research how your assigned topic affects the components of an ecosystem and the interactions between those components. Find at least one print and one online source. List them here.



3) Discuss these questions with your partner:



- What information will you include from the Student Text and the text on the handout?
- What information will you include from your additional print and online sources?
- In what format will you create your presentation? (PowerPoint, video, narrated slideshow, posters, etc.)
- What visuals or sounds will you include to enhance your presentation?
- What tables, diagrams, or charts will you use to better communicate your main ideas?

- 4) Use this space to plan your multimedia presentation. You may wish to write a script, draw examples of visuals that you will include, make an outline of your presentation, etc.



Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information

- 5) Create your multimedia presentation. Prepare to share it with the class!



Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information

Ecosystems can change in many ways. Some changes are slow, such as climate change, and some are fast, such as a landslide. Some changes are natural, such as bird migration, and some are caused by humans, such as logging.



Developing and
Using Models

Think of one thing that can cause an ecosystem to change. Then complete the boxes below by drawing a picture of the ecosystem before and after the change. In the caption box, write a paragraph explaining how and why the ecosystem changed.

Before



After

Caption: