

# People and the Environment

## Standard

Science in Personal and Social Perspectives—Understand changes in environments.

## Objective

Students will choose a project to discover how people have changed an ecosystem.

## Materials

Ecosystem Choice Board reproducible

Choice Boards give students a choice of activities to show what they've learned. These flexible projects allow students to work at their own readiness levels. In order to support all students, provide materials and books at different reading levels and several activity choices.

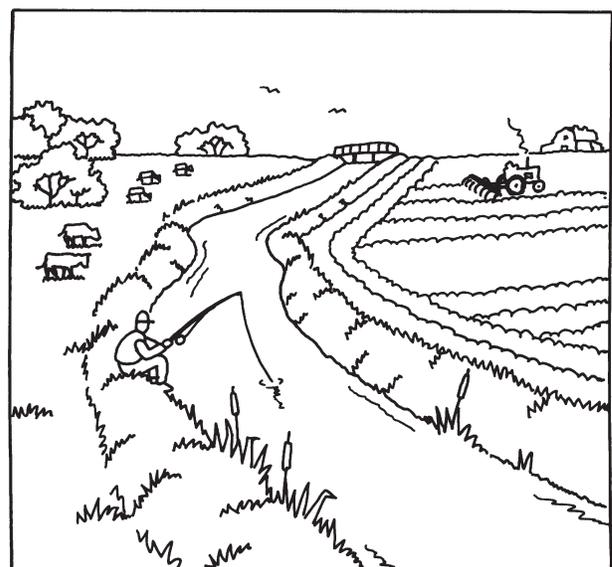
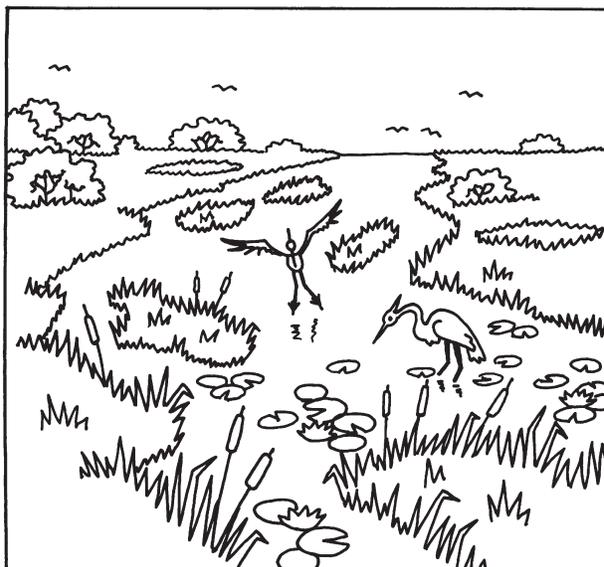
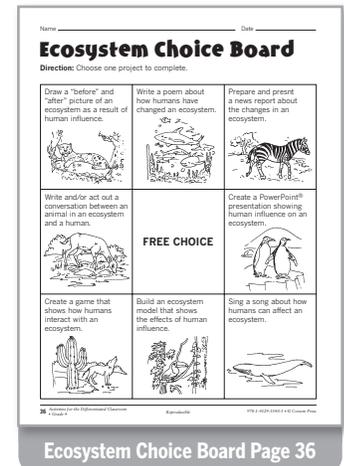
In fourth grade, students learn about ecosystems and how humans change their environments in either beneficial, neutral, or detrimental ways. Give students a copy of the **Ecosystem Choice Board reproducible (page 36)**. Have students select one of the projects to show what they've learned about humans' effect on ecosystems. Students may work alone or with a partner.

To close the activity, give students a chance to share their work with the class. Then encourage them to reflect on their learning in their journals.

## Strategies

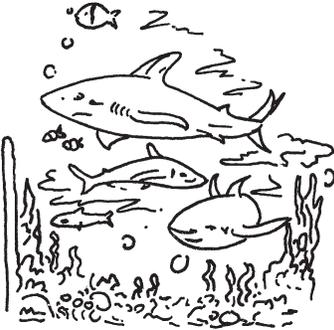
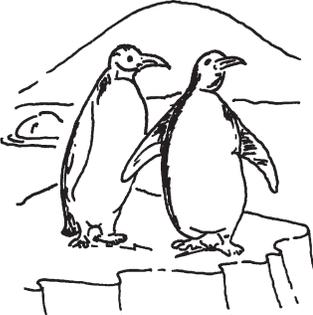
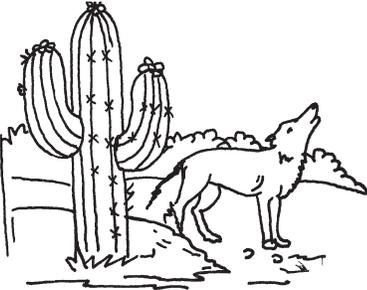
Choice board

Journaling



# Ecosystem Choice Board

**Direction:** Choose one project to complete.

<p>Draw a “before” and “after” picture of an ecosystem as a result of human influence.</p> 	<p>Write a poem about how humans have changed an ecosystem.</p> 	<p>Prepare and present a news report about the changes in an ecosystem.</p> 
<p>Write and/or act out a conversation between an animal in an ecosystem and a human.</p> 	<p><b>FREE CHOICE</b></p>	<p>Create a PowerPoint® presentation showing human influence on an ecosystem.</p> 
<p>Create a game that shows how humans interact with an ecosystem.</p> 	<p>Build an ecosystem model that shows the effects of human influence.</p> 	<p>Sing a song about how humans can affect an ecosystem.</p> 