

BUILDING AN ECOSYSTEM

What do you need?

A ball of string
At least 6 people

What do you do?

1. Get everyone to stand in a circle with one person standing in the centre with the ball of string.
2. Each person imagines they're a different animal, plant or other part of nature eg. rock, pond etc.
3. Each person then names what animal, plant or object they are.
4. The person in the centre hands the end of the ball of string to the person they are connected to. For example, if the person in the centre was a koala, they would hand the end of the ball of string to the person who is the eucalyptus tree.
5. Continue along every person in the group. Each time they form a connection, they hold onto the string and pass on the end of the string to the person they're connected to. Some things will be connected to many other things.
6. Now think about taking one person out of the ecosystem. What happens then? What happens if you took a tree lizard out? Have the person who is the tree lizard tug on the string - how many people felt it?



Discussion

Discuss the impact of taking out certain parts of the ecosystem, why this could happen and what we have to do about it in the future.

