

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Ecosystem Diorama Guidelines

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Create an ecosystem diorama. The diorama must include the following things:

1. The name of your ecosystem
2. Three (3) animals that live in your ecosystem.
3. Two (2) plants that live in your ecosystem.
4. One (1) landform that is found in your ecosystem.
5. Specific labels for each animal, plant, and landform shown in your ecosystem.

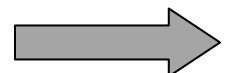
**Your ecosystem project must also include:**

1. A paragraph (must be at least 5 sentences long) explaining your ecosystem.

Be sure to follow the guidelines below when writing the paragraph:

1. The paragraph must be indented.
2. The paragraph must have a topic sentence that names your ecosystem.
3. The paragraph must explain the animals, plants, and landforms that are in your diorama.
4. The paragraph should end with a concluding sentence.
4. Every sentence must be complete, begin with a capital, and have punctuation at the end.
5. All writing must be neat and readable. (It may be typed.)
6. First and last names written neatly on the paragraph paper.

*See the back for suggestions on how to make your diorama*



## Steps to Make an Ecosystem Diorama

1. Decide what type of ecosystem you want to create. Some options to consider are:

- rain forest
- coral reef
- grassland
- desert
- tundra
- ocean
- rocky shore
- prairie
- pond
- woodland
- swamp

These are just ideas. You may choose one that is not listed.

2. Do some research (read books, check the Internet, look in an encyclopedia) on the ecosystem you choose. Find the names of specific animals, plants and landforms that are found in that ecosystem.

3. Plan your diorama.

1. Decide if you will create your diorama in a shoe box, on a board, on cardboard, or some other type of material.
2. Decide what materials you will use to make your diorama (paint, crayons, markers, construction paper, glue, plastic animals, magazine pictures, rocks, sand, grass, dirt, etc.).

You do not need to buy materials to create the diorama!!! Paper animals, plants and landforms are fine.

4. Build your diorama.

1. Create the background (or landscape) using paint, crayons, markers, construction paper, play dough, or some other material.
2. Arrange the plants and animals on the background. Then glue/hang them in the place you chose.
3. Label the plants, animals, and landforms.

5. Make sure your first and last names are somewhere on the ecosystem diorama.

6. Write your paragraph explaining the ecosystem on a separate piece of paper.

# Diorama Examples



**Ocean Diorama**



**Rainforest Diorama**



**Saltwater Ecosystem Diorama**



**Lego Rainforest Diorama**



**Desert Diorama**



**Pond Diorama**



**Arctic Dioramas**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Ecosystem: \_\_\_\_\_

## Ecosystem Diorama Research Worksheet

Animals	Plants	Landforms	Background

## Ecosystem Diorama Rubric

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

	3	2	1	0	Total
<b>Name</b>	Diorama is labeled. Label is neatly displayed and easy to read.	Diorama is labeled. Label is either not displayed neatly or is not easy to read	Diorama label is difficult to read and not neatly displayed.	Diorama is not labeled.	
<b>Animals</b>	Diorama contains at least three animals found in the ecosystem shown.	Diorama only shows 2 animals or one of the animals is not found in the ecosystem shown.	Diorama only shows 1 animal found in the ecosystem shown.	Diorama does not include any animals or the animals shown are not found in the ecosystem shown.	
<b>Plants</b>	Diorama contains at least 2 plants found in the ecosystem shown.	Diorama only shows 1 plant or one of the plants is not found in the ecosystem shown.	Diorama only shows 1 plant found in the ecosystem shown.	Diorama does not include any plants or none of the plants shown are found in the ecosystem created.	
<b>Landform</b>	Diorama shows at least one landform found in the ecosystem shown.	Diorama shows one landform but it is not found in the ecosystem shown.		No landforms are shown on ecosystem diorama.	
<b>Labels</b>	All plants, animals, and landforms are clearly and neatly labeled.	All but one plant, animal or landform are labeled or all are labeled, but labels are not neatly written or displayed.	More than one label is missing or labels are very sloppy -- difficult to read or sloppily displayed	Plants, animals, and landforms are not labeled	
<b>Quality</b>	Diorama shows considerable attention to construction. Items are displayed neatly and secured. There are no stray marks, smudges or glue stains.	Diorama shows attention to construction. Items are neatly displayed and secured, but there are a few marks, smudges and glue stains.	Diorama shows little effort. Items appear to be "slapped on" or pieces are loose. Smudges, stray marks, and glue stains are apparent.	Diorama is so messy, it is difficult, or impossible, to tell what it is showing.	
<b>Design</b>	Objects are appropriate size and shape. They are arranged well.	One object is not the appropriate size or shape or the objects are not arranged well.	More than 1 object is not the appropriate size and the objects are not arranged well	Objects are the inappropriate size or shape. Little effort was given to designing the scene.	

## Ecosystem Paragraph Rubric

	3	2	1	0	Total
<b>Indented</b>	Paragraph is indented a few spaces.	Paragraph is indented, but is indented too far to the right.		Paragraph is not indented	
<b>Topic Sentence</b>	Paragraph includes a topic sentence stating the ecosystem type.	Paragraph includes a topic sentence, but it does not name the type of ecosystem.		Paragraph does not include a topic sentence.	
<b>Explanation of animals, plants and landforms</b>	Paragraph contains an explanation of each animal, plant, and landform shown on ecosystem diorama.	Paragraph contains an explanation of all but 1 animal, plant, or landform shown on ecosystem diorama.	Paragraph does not explain more than one animal, plant or landform shown on ecosystem diorama.	Paragraph does not explain any of the animals, plants or landforms shown on the ecosystem diorama.	
<b>Conclusion</b>	Paragraph has an obvious, appropriate concluding sentence.	Paragraph has an ending sentence, but its connection to the paragraph is not apparent.		Paragraph does not end with a concluding sentence.	
<b>Neatness</b>	Paragraph is neat and easy to read.	Most of paragraph is neat and easy to read.	Paragraph is readable, but is not neat.	Paragraph is extremely difficult to read, or is not readable.	
<b>Name</b>	First and last names are neatly written on paragraph	First and last names are sloppily written on paragraph	First name only is written on paragraph	Paragraph does not include student's name	
				<b>Total</b>	
				<b>Grade</b>	