

Biodiversity Musical Chairs Teacher Guide

Life Science (Lower Middle)
Unit 4

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Set Up:

**For a class of 32 scholars print one full set of Role Cards and Energy Sources*

If you have less than 32 scholars, eliminate the following pairs of players/energy sources for each scholar:

Energy Sources (to remove from original resource)	Role Card (to remove from original resource)
Tick	Praying mantis
Tick	Cardinal
Wildflower	Beetle
Wildflower	Butterfly
Sun	Tree
Sun	Tree
Sun	Fern
Sun	Fern
Cardinal	Hawk
Cardinal	Hawk
Cardinal	Hawk

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Round Directions:

**Only read the italicized section of each round to scholars before starting the round. After reading aloud, remove the indicated chairs/energy sources. Then, play music and when the music stops, scholars must find a seat that contains their energy source. Scholars who do not find a seat are eliminated from the game.*

Round 0: Healthy ecosystem

The ecosystem has no disruptions and includes a variety of species. There are enough chairs around the circle for every player to sit in. All energy sources are placed on individual chairs.

Round 1: Health Decline

Due to warmer temperatures this summer, the water in the ponds were too warm to keep bullfrog and newt eggs alive before they hatched.

Take out all chairs that contain bullfrog and newt as energy sources. Take out one chair that contains slugs as an energy source.

Round 2: Health Decline Continues

Due to underregulation of rules during hunting season, the ecosystem experienced serious overhunting of the White-Tailed deer population.

Take out all chairs that contain the White-Tailed deer as an energy source. Take out one chair that contains the White-Oak tree as an energy source.

Round 3: Health Decline Continues

A group of campers left an invasive species behind as they were hiking through the ecosystem. The Japanese barberry competes for space and sunlight with other plants.

Take out all chairs that contain the fern as an energy source. Take out one chair that contains the vole as an energy source. Take out two chairs with sunlight as an energy source.

Round 4: Health Decline Continues

Pollution from an upstream campsite contained a chemical that affected beetle reproduction. Many beetles were born with severe mutations that did not allow them to survive past three days.

Take out all chairs that contain the beetle as an energy source.