

HABITAT GO/FIND IN FAUNTLEROY PARK

Working as a team, go into the park and find the following habitat features. Then answer the questions about each, using what you already know about the natural world. Maybe you'll learn more!



TEAM MEMBERS _____

FUNGUS ON ROTTING WOOD

1. Is the fungus alive? _____ Try these clues to help you decide:

When you touch it with a stick, is it hard or rubbery and firmly attached?

Or is it dry or crumbly and loosely attached?

Does it appear to be getting food and water? _____ If so, from where? _____

Has it multiplied by spreading out into a mat or by making smaller versions of itself? _____

2. What do you see the rotting wood doing for the fungus? _____

3. What do you see the fungus doing for this forest habitat? _____

A PLACE WHERE AN ANIMAL COULD TAKE SHELTER

1. What kind of animal might use this shelter? _____

2. Why might an animal need this shelter?

to hide to nest to sleep To stay dry other _____

3. Do you see evidence that an animal has been here? _____ If so, what?

fur or feathers nesting material hulls or other food leavings droppings

a polished-looking entrance other _____

FRUIT -- BERRIES, NUTS, OR SEEDS

1. Why do plants make fruit of some kind? _____

2. Where might this berry, nut, or seed have come from?

tree bush water-loving plant low-to-the-ground plant other _____

3. What animals might eat this fruit? _____

4. How might this fruit get transported elsewhere in the forest? _____

ANIMALS LIVING UNDER A PIECE OF WOOD

GENTLY LIFT THE WOOD AND REPLACE IT AFTER YOU'VE HAD A GOOD LOOK.

1. What kinds of animals do you see?

worm beetle spider insect centipede other _____

2. What evidence of animals do you see?

eggs or egg sacs tunnels that they've bored droppings other _____

3. Where do you see that these animals are getting food and water? _____

4. What about this place appears to make it a good choice for these animals? _____

A PLANT OR ANIMAL THAT IS DECOMPOSING

1. What is decomposition? What do you see happening here?

2. What do you see or smell that is helping decompose the plant or animal you've found.

worms and other critters water plant roots bird peckings human activity
mold bacteria other _____

3. What results of decomposition do you detect?

sawdust fresh dirt soft, mushy wood smell of decay other _____

ONE PLANT LIVING ON ANOTHER LIVING PLANT

1. What kind of plant is this epiphyte (pronounced "ep-ă-fight")?

fern vine moss groundcover bush other _____

2. What kind of plant is its host?

tree bush other _____

3. How does this epiphyte get food and water? _____

4. How might this epiphyte have gotten started here? _____