

# Welcome to the Garden Earth! *PowerPoint*

## Essential Question:

*What is an ecosystem?*

## At a Glance:

Learners are introduced to Garden Earth and the ‘What is an Ecosystem?’ module through an informative and interactive PowerPoint.

## Background Information:

See *Background Information: Earth’s Ecosystems*

## Getting Ready:

Set up the equipment necessary for showing the PowerPoint presentation. Pull the water eco-service worker cards listed in the ‘Supplies’ column. Explain that Earth has many eco-service departments that make up every ecosystem on earth. Review the PowerPoint script prior to your Club session.

## Procedure:

1. Explain that Garden Earth has many eco-service departments that make up every ecosystem on Earth. All organisms live and work on Earth. Show learners some of the eco-service worker cards. Briefly introduce the worker on each card. Explain that we will be learning more about these eco-workers in this module. Ask the children if they have seen any of them at our club site. What job do these animals do?
2. Present the PowerPoint presentation. It introduces the major concepts of the ‘What is an Ecosystem?’ module as follows:
  - Healthy functioning ecosystems maintain life in balance on Earth.
  - Although the type of ecosystems varies around the world, all ecosystems are important for maintaining a healthy planet.
  - There are seven eco-services or life-support functions provided by planet Earth.
  - Human activities can create stresses that alter normal ecosystem functions, and impair life support functions.

## Discussion/Assessment:

What is an ecosystem?

What eco-services (GEN departments) can we see functioning on our school site?

What threats face the Garden Earth? What can we do to help Garden Earth?

**Location:** Indoors

**Objectives:** *Learners will*

- 1) display curiosity about the major concepts related to Garden Earth.

**Skills:** communication, listening, analysis

**Supplies:**

- PowerPoint
- LDC projector
- monitor

**Eco-service Worker Cards**

- Bat
- Ground Beetle
- Carpenter Ant
- Eastern Cottontail Rabbit
- Eastern Red Cedar
- Flowering Dogwood
- Frog
- Honeybee
- Mosquito
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird
- Slash Pine tree
- Snake
- Turkey Vulture
- Turtle
- Virginia Opossum
- White-footed Mouse
- Whitetail Deer

**Subjects:** language arts, science

**Time:** 20 minutes