

What is an ecosystem?

→ A community of animals and plants interacting with one another and with their physical environment



What are ecosystem services?

→ The many life-sustaining benefits we receive from nature

Examples:
Flood control
Fresh water for cattle
Wood for construction
Fishing



Use these two sites to learn more:
<http://www.esa.org/ecoservices/comm/body.comm.fact.ecos.html>

<https://www.epa.gov/eco-research/ecosystem-services>

Ecosystem services are important for environmental and human health, and wellbeing, yet they are limited and are often taken for granted.

You can connect the ecosystem to your classroom & engage your students with interdisciplinary learning

Your students can be caretakers of Southeast Idaho's resources

Activities that impair ecosystems:
Destruction of wetlands
Soil erosion
Deforestation
Urban sprawl

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