

Unit 2 Extensions

Use the yarn from the 'Weaving a Web' activity to make an interaction web instead of a food web. Give the yarn to one student in the circle and tell them to pass the yarn ball to a plant or animal their picture would interact with. In this web, you will not cut the yarn after each chain, it will be continuous. When all students are holding a piece of yarn, some may be holding more than one, you can discuss the importance of all the living things in the desert.

Use the Biodiversity cards to play bingo. Print out enough cards for each student or pair of students to share. Take students on a nature walk and they can cross off any picture they see on their card during the walk. Students can take the blank biodiversity card home to create their own card based off what they see in their neighborhood.

Use the picture cards to create a food web of their own or different food chains. They can draw their food chain or web on a blank piece of paper and then draw the energy arrows in the color for their role. (herbivore=yellow, omnivore=orange, carnivore=red)

Students can write a story using one of the food chain links they came up with as the plot. They can illustrate the story when they are done.

Each student can choose a different plant or animal from the Sonoran Desert and then create a bio page for it. Give students a set of expectations. They can all be compiled into a class book.

Students can participate in the Backyard Bats Project with Arizona Game and Fish. Students will be collecting data about the presence of Lesser Long-Nosed Bats in their backyard. Visit the website with information to send home with your students about how to set up the feeders, when to collect data, and how to submit the data.

<https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife-conservation/living-with-wildlife/backyard-bats-project/>