

Ecosystem Services Assignment

Purpose: You will be creating an **infographic** to illustrate the importance of biodiversity in ecosystems to maintain specific ecosystem services that are of vital importance to humans

Instructions: At your table (*5-6 students*), each student will pick a different way that ecosystems can provide us with valuable services.

Examples: *moderate temperatures, break down toxins, provide nutrients, pollinate crops, etc.*

Students will research their topic and **find an organism (or group of organisms)** that are endangered or threatened and are essential (important) ecosystem servers. In the infographic, you will **demonstrate the importance of that service** and what would happen if that service is no longer provided by the organism.

For example, bees are great pollinators and are responsible for pollinating over 100 crops that humans rely on for food. An infographic could illustrate which crops would disappear if bees were to disappear.

Your infographic must include:

- * *Which ecosystem service* is provided by your organism (can be more than 1). Use infographic to demonstrate the importance of these services (can be financial, can be ecologically, etc.)
- * *Why* this ecosystem service is so important
- * *Name of organism/where found?*
- * *What is happening* to your organism? *Suggestions of what can be done.*