

Interactions Within Ecosystems		Grade 7: Interactions in the Environment	
Curriculum Connections	Topic	Life Systems	
	Fundamental Concepts	Sustainability and Stewardship	
<p>Description In this lesson, students will investigate interactions within the environment and identify factors that affect the balance between different components of an ecosystem. Students will also assess the impacts of human activities and technologies on the environment, specifically on lake sturgeon.</p>			
<p>Big Ideas Ecosystems are made up of biotic (living) and abiotic (non-living) elements, which depend on each other to survive. Ecosystems are in a constant state of change. The changes may be caused by nature or by human intervention.</p>		<p>Overall Expectations 2. investigate interactions within the environment, and identify factors that affect the balance between different components of an ecosystem. 3. demonstrate an understanding of interactions between and among biotic and abiotic elements in the environment.</p>	
<p>Specific Expectations 2.3 use scientific inquiry/research skills to investigate occurrences that affect the balance within a local ecosystem 3.1 demonstrate an understanding of an ecosystem (e.g., a log, a pond, a forest) as a system of interactions between living organisms and their environment 3.8 describe ways in which human activities and technologies alter balances and interactions in the environment</p>			