

## **Mini Lesson: 5**

**Grade Level:** 3

**Curriculum:** 3-LS2: Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics

**Tools:** Students will learn about ecosystems through a PowerPoint lesson. After the lesson, students will gain knowledge about the science fair. I will use the Sparks tool to remind students on the school website about the science fair.

**Synopsis:** For the introduction, I will introduce the topic of ecosystems by making connections from the previous lesson on organisms and diverse life cycles to help student fully understand ecosystems. For the instruction, I will present the PowerPoint on ecosystems. After the PowerPoint students should be able to construct an argument that some animals form groups that help members survive and the different social interactions and group behaviors. Once the students and I discuss this, I will show students the flyer I created on Sparks for their science fair project. Students are to create a project describing their dream ecosystem and how their society will socially interact. Students will partner up, based off of a random generator. Students will be able to use props or create a three D model. Also, students are to write a paper describing their ecosystem and the social interactions. Students will have two weeks to complete this project. For conclusion, students will present their project to me the day of the science fair. Afterwards, as a class we will walk to project to the science fair for later that evening. Students who place in the science fair will receive an award.