

Group #: _____

Station Title: What Is The Forest Made Of?

Group Members:

Look at the vegetation around you and answer the questions below.

- 1. How dense is the CANOPY coverage? Are there few trees overage, or many? How much sunlight do the trees block out?**
- 2. Describe the FOREST FLOOR. Are there many tiny plants, or few? Is the ground dry, moist, or wet? Are there lots of leaves or pine needles, or is the ground bare?**
- 3. Describe the UNDERSTORY between the canopy and the forest floor. Are there any saplings (small trees) present?**

<p>Title: What is the Forest Made Of?</p>	<p>Subject: Science</p>	<p>Grade: 3-6</p>
<p>Outcomes</p>	<p>Lesson</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will observe and describe the vegetation in the area and make connections with both biotic and abiotic factors • Students draw connections and develop an understanding of the interconnectedness of forest life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will identify three different levels of vegetation in the area around the stream: Canopy, understory and forest floor by answering questions. They will make note of trees and canopy cover as well as the smaller plants living near the water • Older students can be introduced to the terms Riparian Vegetation and Macrophyte Coverage to describe the large and small (respectively) vegetation in the vicinity of the stream. • Students are encouraged to make connections between the levels of vegetation and how they impact their local surroundings (i.e. dense canopy coverage means less light reaches the forest floor, and there are fewer small plants underneath, while a relatively open area has more saplings and undergrowth; dense canopy provides shelter for animals (not just tree-dwellers – fish, too!)) 	
<p>Literacy Connection: Ecoliteracy</p>		
<p>Fantastic 4 Connection: Team Work Respect for Environment</p>		
<p>Outdoor Location: Baille Ard Trails: Station # <u> </u></p>	<p>Materials Required: Pencil Paper</p>	
<p>Assessment: Written answers</p>		