# Grades: 1 & 2

# Guiding Questions

How do animals and plants meet their needs”?

# Timing 30 minutes

# MA STE Standards addressed in lesson

1-LS1-1: Use evidence to explain that (b) plants have roots, stems, leaves, flowers, and fruits that are used to take in water, air, and other nutrients, and produce food for the plant.

2-LS2-3(MA): Develop and use models to compare how plants and animals depend on their surroundings and other living things to meet their needs in the places they live.

**Comparing Animal and Plant Needs Lesson Plan**

**Materials Needed**

Chart paper or white board.

Magazines with nature pictures for cutting out images.

Paste for making collages.

Paper on which to glue the pictures.

# Overview

In this lesson, students develop collages to represent (i.e., model) how animals and plants meet their needs in a forest habitat (or other habitats that you may have studied—ocean, pond, prairie, artic). Animals depend on their surroundings and other living things to meet their needs in the places they live. Animals need food, water, air, shelter, and favorable temperature; plants need sufficient light, water, minerals, favorable temperature, and animals or other mechanisms to disperse seeds.

# Procedure

1. Review with the students the needs that animals have by asking them to name their own needs for survival. List these on one chart paper or the white board (food, water, air, shelter, and favorable temperature). They will likely say other things like love, money, toys, etc. that you can include on the chart if you would like. If you do, then ask the students to review their list of needs and think about whether or not a wild animal (squirrel, rabbit, bird, spider) would have these same needs. Circle the ones that all animals need—listed in parentheses above.
2. Ask students to next think about what plants need to survive (sufficient light, water, minerals, favorable temperature, and animals or other mechanisms to disperse seeds). This discussion may take a little more prompting by you. You can show them the “How plants meet their Needs” graphic at the end of this lesson.
3. Have students construct a forest habitat collage using magazine photos to show examples of food, water, air, shelter, sunlight that could meet the needs of common plants and animals in the Northeast Deciduous Forest such as squirrels, deer, turkeys, pine trees, oak trees.
4. Ask students to label the parts of their collages that represent food, water, air, shelter, sunlight for meeting plant and animal needs.



LEAVES Make Food

STEM supports and moves food & water

ROOTS absorb water & some store food