

Ecosystem Lab

Presented at the New Jersey Science Convention - 2001

Submitted by Kelly Tetley

Materials:

Pinecone, filter paper, funnel, flask, magnifying glass
or dissecting microscope, alcohol, water

To show students that a pine cone is an ecosystem

1. Place the funnel in the flask, and fold the filter paper up and place it in the funnel
2. Place the pinecone in the funnel that is lined with filter paper
3. Pour some alcohol over the pine cone, then some water
4. Remove the pinecone and then unfold the filter paper
5. Observe the filter paper with the magnifying glass or microscope

Students may find biotic and abiotic factors have been flushed from the pine cone proving it is an ecosystem