Web of Life

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Developed with:

Web of Life

Number of people: 6 - 12
Age Range: 8+

Instructions:

1. Print out the names and graphic of each organism

2. "Laminate" each card with packing tape and cut out holes to tie a string onto each card, making it into a necklace

3. Form a circle and place each card face down in the center

4. Have each participant pick a card from the middle and place the card around their neck for everyone to see.

5. The person with the Mangrove card starts off the game by tossing the spool of yarn to someone else in the circle.

6. The person who catches the yarn tries to explain how the organism on his or her card interacts with mangroves. Anyone in the group can join in to help out.

7. Next, the person who caught the spool of yarn holds onto the yarn and tosses the spool to a third person. The third person explains how the organism on his or her card interacts with the second person's organism. If the player gets stuck, anyone in the game can make a guess.

8. The game continues until everyone has had a turn at catching the spool of yarn. The string is now complex and tangled—everyone in the group is connected to everyone else. Players can also talk about how their organisms are connected to others that came up earlier in the game.

Debrief Questions:

Pick one organism from the game:

Can anyone predict what would happen if it was removed from the web?

Which other organisms would be affected?

What might threaten the organism in question?

How could we mitigate/prevent these threats?

What would happen if you cut the yarn with scissors?

What effect would this have on the ecosystem?

How are these organisms important to people?

Learning Outcomes:

To understand that all living things in the ecosystem are interconnected

Mangrove forests support life for a variety of organism including ourselves

Threats to any of these organisms may have a negative impact on others and can create a domino-effect in the ecosystem

(derived from

https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/weboflifeactivity.pdf)

Components

Mangrove

Mangle

Water

Agua

Soil

Suelo

Termite

Termita

Crab

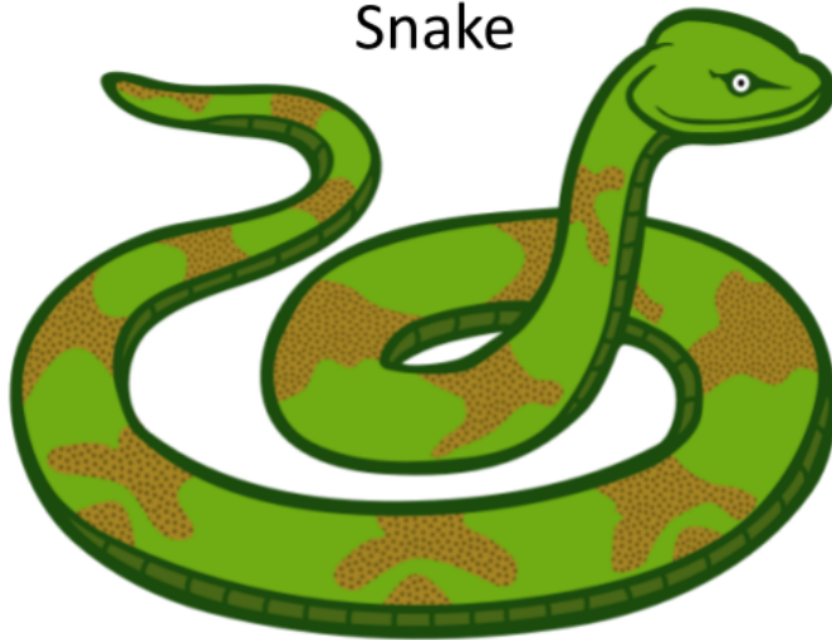Cangrejo
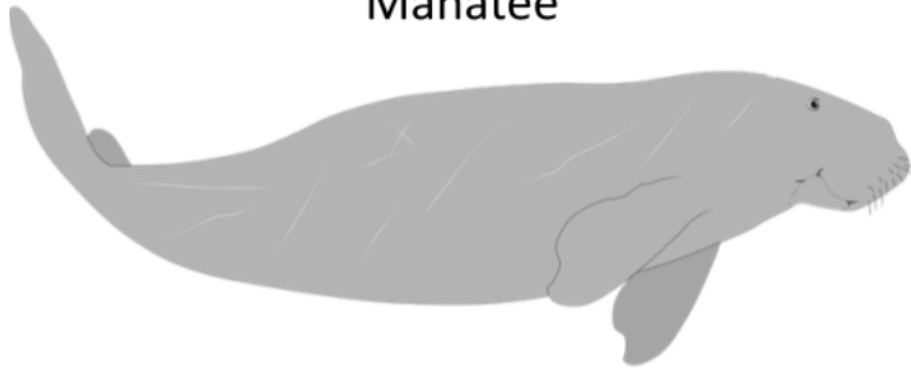

Snake

Culebra

People

Personas

Heron

Garza

Insects

Insectos

Fish

Pez

Manatee

Manatí

Woodpecker

Pájaro Carpintero