

# The Story of a Forest

## Prep

This activity uses acting and story telling to illustrate the concept of forest succession. Before starting the activity, explain to students that they will be using their imaginations to tell the story of how a forest changes over time. Ask students why a habitat might change over time. What are some natural events that may cause a forest to change? Are there any human activities that may change a forest habitat, or even stop a habitat from changing?

## Materials:

- Laminated story cards
- Wildlife finger puppets

## How to

- Divide students into 6 groups, and give each group a story card and the corresponding wildlife finger puppets for their story scene. Explain to students that they will be working together to tell the whole story, and that each group has one chapter of the story. Explain that each group will be working together to present their chapter to the rest of the class. Groups should pick one person to narrate, and assign roles to the other group members. For example, a couple of students could act as the habitat (trees, flowers, etc), and others could portray the animals in the scene either through acting or with the finger puppets. Encourage students to draw or construct scenery and add their own creative flair!
- For younger students, the educator can read the story out loud, and students can take turns acting out the story. Assess the needs of your students and feel free to get creative!
- After giving students ample time to prepare, ask each group to present their story chapter in order. At the end of the story, debrief with students on the story's events.

