

## Activity 2.7 Habitats and Hula Hoops

**Overview:** Students will describe and identify various habitats in an outdoor learning space. Students will identify and discuss key elements of a habitat including available food and water and shelter.

### Lesson Background:

- Every living thing, plant or animal, has a home or a habitat. A habitat is place where a plant or animal can find the necessary food, water and shelter to survive.
- Different animals and plants have different habitats. Several plants and animals can share the same habitat.
- Some plants and animals can survive in many habitats. Others are found in just a few.
- Human beings can positively or adversely affect a plant or animal habitat.

**Grade Levels:**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade and Beyond

**Core Subjects:** Life Science

### Materials:

- Science Notebook, Journal or Paper
- Outdoor Learning Space
- Hula Hoops or Rope to Define Scope of Habitat

### Instructions:

1. Briefly discuss as a group the necessary elements of a habitat. Use a student as an example. What would make a good habitat for this student? Do they have food to eat, water to drink and a house for shelter?
2. Students will then be given their journals, notebooks or habitat worksheet.
3. Students will break up into groups of 2-4 in the outdoor learning space.
4. Each group or student will identify a living plant or animal in the learning space.
5. Students will be given a hula-hoop or 4 foot long rope to identify the scope and size of the habitat.
6. Next students will use their journal to list: what they found (plant or animal), where they found it, describe its habitat and answer if it has food, water or shelter nearby.
7. Lastly, the students will write down or share with the group whether these are good habitats.

## Habitat Worksheet

Habitats are places where animals or plants find their basic needs for food, water, and shelter. Find a plant or animal in the garden living in its habitat and fill in the boxes below.

What I found	Plant or Animal	Where I found it	Describe its habitat	Does it have Food, Water, or Shelter nearby?
Ex. Grasshopper	Animal	In some weeds	Moist and wet	Food- Leaves, Shelter- plants Water- Rain,

How could people change the habitat for these plants or animals? Are there ways our actions might make a better or worse habitat?

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