

Introduction to *Teacher's Domain* Worksheet

Teachers' Domain is an online library of more than 2,500 free media resources from the best in public television. These classroom resources, featuring media from *NOVA*, *Frontline*, *Cyberchase*, *QUEST*, *American Experience*, and other public broadcasting and content partners, are easy to use and correlate to state and national curriculum standards. *Teachers' Domain* resources include video and audio segments, interactive activities, images, documents, lesson plans for teachers, and student-oriented activities.

In this workshop module, you will introduce participants to the *Teachers' Domain* (TD) Web site, and then give them an opportunity to find TD resources to use in their own lessons.

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Why Register?

Registering with *Teachers' Domain* is simple, safe, and free, and allows you to:

- View as many resources as you like
- Save, sort, and share resources using “My Folders” and “My Groups”
- Download resources to your desktop
- See standards correlations for your state
- Upload media or other documents into “My Folders”
- Rate and comment on resources

How to Register

- Go to: <http://www.teachersdomain.org/>
- Click on “Register Now”
- Fill out the online form

My sign-in name: _____

You can update your email address or any other information at any time on your “My Profile” page.

How to Find Resources

There are multiple ways to access resources on *Teachers' Domain* from the home page, including by program title or by particular topics or subject areas.

Here are some ways to search *Teachers' Domain*.

- **Use the Search Bar:**

The search bar is located at the top of every page on *Teachers' Domain*. Here are some examples of searches you can do:

- o Search by keywords, e.g., light
- o Enter more than one keyword to find resources pertaining to all terms, ranked with those including all these words highest on the list, e.g. speed light
- o Use quotation marks around a group of words to find titles with that exact phrase, e.g., "speed of light"
- o Further filter an existing search by selecting grade range, content area, media type, or permitted use on your "Search results" page

- **Browse by K-12 Subject:**

Each resource is tagged according to grade level and subject area, and organized according to national standards, when applicable. Subject lists may vary according to the edition of *Teachers' Domain* available in your state. This example uses national K-12 edition subjects to illustrate one way to find resources for a lesson on animal habitats:

1. Click on "Science" on the *Teachers' Domain* home page.
2. Click "+" to expand Life Science, and click "+" to expand Ecology.
3. Click "Ecosystems."
4. On the "Ecosystems" page, look through a selection of media resources and lesson plans on this topic to see which one(s) best fits your needs. Click on the title to view that resource page.

By default, the results will show up for grades K-12. Open the filter toggle for "Grade Level" if you want to narrow your search

- Use the following space to jot down the trail of other *Teachers' Domain* resources that interest you:

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You may see a state-oriented version of this subject hierarchy. There is also a College Edition for use in post-secondary education. To use the College Edition, click "Change Edition" at the bottom of the page.

- **Browse by Special Collections:**

The resources in each of these special collections are often thematically linked, or created under a particular partnership. For example, here is a way you can access resources about the north and south polar regions from the Polar Sciences Collection:

1. On the Teachers' Domain home page, find the "Special Collections."
2. Use the arrows to scroll through "Curriculum Topics and Themes."
3. Click the title for "Polar Sciences Collection."
4. Click on an image to select a theme, or select the lesson plan or student activity.

The same resources are also available in the appropriate K-12 subject areas.

- Use the following space to jot down the trail of other Teachers' Domain Special Collection resources that interest you:

How to Select Resources

Once you reach the page that lists your search results, you will find the following pieces of information for each resource to help you make your choice.

- A brief **annotation** that describes the resource
- The recommended **grade level range**
- The **media type**:
 - o Video: typically 3-5 minutes long; e.g., “Caves: Extreme Conditions for Life”
 - o Audio: often an interview, a radio excerpt, or a live recording from an event; e.g., “Astronauts Speak: Gene Cernan”
 - o Interactive: a hands-on interactive experience; e.g., “DNA Extraction”
 - o Image: a still or interactive image; e.g., “Fossils”
 - o Document: an online or printable PDF document; e.g., “1900 Air Pollution”
 - o Lesson Plan: a teacher-led lesson; e.g., “The Coral Reef Ecosystem”
 - o Student Activity: a student-driven interactive experience; e.g., “Continental Drift: From Idea to Theory”

Note: When you are on a page that lists the resources, click on the title in the “Resource” column, rather than the “View” button in the “Media type” column. The former brings up all of the resource components, including the media resource; the latter brings up only the media for a quick preview.

Components Within Each Resource

These components are available for each resource when you click on a resource title.

The screenshot shows a resource page for "Analyzing an Ecosystem". Red arrows point to specific components: "Grade-level Recommendation" points to "Resource for Grades 3-8"; "Media Type" points to "Interactive"; and "Synopsis" points to the descriptive text. The page includes a thumbnail image of an ecosystem, a "VIEW" button, a "DOWNLOAD" button, and a list of content types: Background Essay, Discussion Questions, Standards, and Comments and Reviews. It also features a "SAVE TO FOLDER" and "SHARE" button, source information from the University of Alberta, and a "See Also" section with related resources. The page is produced by WGBH and funded by the National Science Foundation.

Analyzing an Ecosystem
Resource for Grades 3-8 | [View Citation](#)

Grade-level Recommendation

Media Type: Interactive
Running Time:
Size: 191.4 KB
[VIEW](#)
or
[DOWNLOAD](#)

Synopsis
What are ecological systems, and what types of organisms live in these environments? This interactive activity adapted from the University of Alberta identifies the living and nonliving components of an animated ecosystem. Users are also invited to look at examples of mimicry, and identify which living things are producers and which are consumers. To help users complete the activity, key terms, including biotic and abiotic components, are defined.

Permitted use: [Download](#), [Share](#), and [Remix](#)

- ▶ [Background Essay](#)
- ▶ [Discussion Questions](#)
- ▶ [Standards](#)
- ▶ [Comments and Reviews](#)
☆☆☆☆☆ Based on 1 review [ADD A REVIEW](#)

[SAVE TO FOLDER](#) [SHARE](#)

Source: University of Alberta and Bio-DITRL
This media asset was adapted from the [University of Alberta](#).

See Also:
Massachusetts Edition:
[Ecosystems Producers and Consumers](#)
National K -12 Subject:
[Biomes Ecosystems Producers and Consumers](#)
Lesson Plans Using this Resource:
[Exploring the "Systems" in Ecosystems](#)

Resource Produced by:
WGBH

Collection Developed by:
WGBH
[Collection Credits](#)

Collection Funded by:
NSF National Science Foundation

Some resources may also include **Teaching Tips** and/or **Connections** with additional information, such as ways in which to use the resource in class or correlations to common curricula.

The Frame, Focus, and Follow-up Approach

The frame, focus, and follow-up approach supports students' negotiation of a rich understanding of digital video.

1. **Frame:** Provides a context that helps students make connections to the main content of the video. Asks students questions about the topic to activate prior knowledge.
2. **Focus:** Helps students notice the important moments in the video by asking/cueing them to look for something specific in it.
3. **Follow-up:** Gives students an opportunity to discuss what they saw. By answering questions and describing elements of the video, students consolidate their understanding and can reflect on their viewing.

For more information, check out "Effective Video-based Lessons": <http://www.teachersdomain.org/resource/vt1pd.pd.hints.frfofo/>

Viewing Videos

Most videos are displayed in a player that lets you play the media full-screen, turn closed captions on and off, scroll through the picture forwards and backwards, and search for a term in the audio track.

Lesson Plans and Student Activities

- **Lesson Plan:** Created for use by a teacher. All lessons include the following components: objectives, suggested time, a list of *Teachers' Domain* resources, materials needed, step-by-step instructions, and ideas for assessment. They can be printed or adapted as needed.
- **Student Activity:** An interactive student-centered resource for students to work on by themselves or in small groups. Each activity comes with a printable "Teacher's Guide" available under the "For Teachers" toggle.

Remember that you can search for a lesson plan or student activity using the Media Type filter.

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