

Sandia Mini-Curriculum

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Introduction

Sandia Mini-Curriculum 2005

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edited by Susie Davis

Sandia Mountain Natural History Center
New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science

Hello! Welcome to the Sandia Mountain Natural History Center's *Sandia Mini-Curriculum*! We designed these lessons both as an addition to the *Ecosystem Explorations (E.E.) Curriculum* and as a stand-alone curriculum for teachers who are not using the current E.E. curriculum. The lessons teach ecology and work particularly well in conjunction with a field trip to the Sandia Mountain Natural History Center (SMNHC).

The mini-curriculum consists of five short, easy-to-teach activities, all of which are linked to New Mexico state standards. These interdisciplinary activities teach ecology basics and can help prepare your students for a field trip to the SMNHC or other natural area. Our hope is that all teachers will do at least one of the vocabulary lessons (EConnections, Eco Word Puzzle, or Ecosystem Scramble) prior to the trip. This will enable your class to concentrate more fully on the experiential learning possibilities while at the Center. While the vocabulary lessons (1–3) are designed to be used before the field trip, Take Out the Trash and Fire on Trial can be taught before or after the trip.

These lessons can also be used to teach ecology if you aren't going to the Sandia Mountain Center. Please feel free to copy them for classroom use.

New curricula, including updates and new activities, will be posted on our web site at www.nmnaturalhistory.org. We are operated by the New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a program contact us. Our phone number is (505) 281-5259 or you can reach us through our web site.



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