

**Grade Level Content Statement Topic:**

Life Science- Earth's Living History

4.1 Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.

**I can statements:**

I can identify how ecosystems can change rapidly.

I can identify how ecosystems change when their environments change.

I can recognize the relationship between current and past ecosystems.

I can understand how different animals need different habitats.

**Vocabulary**

barren: describing an area that grows few plants

biodiversity: the number of different plants and animals in an area

deforestation: the mass removal of trees from forests

dormant: inactive

evaporation: the process in which liquid water becomes gas through heat

fasting: not eating

invasive: describing plants or animals that are not natural parts of an ecosystem

niche: a special function that a plant or animal plays in an ecosystem

permafrost: a layer of soil that stays frozen year-round

tundra: a cold, barren region with no trees

ecosystem: a community of organisms and their habitats

physical structures: the parts that make up an organism's body