**Adding Biotic Components to Your Ecocolumn**

Your group will need to decide what organisms to add to your Ecocolumn. Your teacher will provide a couple options for you to choose from. However, your group may want to bring in additional organisms to add before our second day of the project.

Remember: your goal is to set up an ecosystem that will be able to sustain itself. Before deciding on your organisms, consider whether an organism is likely to survive for several weeks in your Ecocolumn.

A few details to consider:

* Producers are the base of any food web. Consider what this means when you are deciding how many terrestrial and aquatic plants you want in each chamber.
* Carnivores require a population of other organisms to eat. Will there be a sustainable population of prey organisms for a carnivore in your Ecocolumn?
* Bigger animals need more land, food, and air.

**Organisms**

Terrestrial Organisms

* Terrestrial plants
* Terrestrial plant seeds
* Crickets
* Pill Bugs
* Ladybugs

Aquatic Organisms

* Aquatic plant: Elodea (a couple pieces)
* Small fish

**Additional Organisms**

Your group may decide that you want to add additional plants or animals to either of your chambers for this project.

You can [use this document](https://docs.google.com/a/summitps.org/file/d/0B6wVL4AJM_eRWWVTOVk3amZQLTg/edit) for ideas for organism that may be a good fit for your Ecocolumn.

**If you plan to add additional organisms, you must arrange to bring these organisms to class before or on the next day of class. The next period we meet, we will seal our Ecocolumns, and we will not add anything additional to them for the rest of the project.**

**Ecocolumn - Record of Organisms**

Use the table below to record what types and how many organism you are adding to your Ecocolumn. You will keep track of any changes to these organisms over the course of the project.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TERRESTRIAL CHAMBER** |  |
| **Terrestrial Animals (Name and Quantity)** | **Terrestrial Plants (Name and Quantity)** |
|  |  |
| **AQUATIC CHAMBER**  |  |
| **Aquatic Animals (Name and Quantity)** | **Aquatic Plants (Name and Quantity)** |
|  |  |