

Student Page 21

Drama in the Forest— Ponderosa Pine/Douglas-fir

Character	Name
Interviewer	
Ponderosa pine	
Douglas-fir	
Pinegrass	
Serviceberry	
Snowbrush <i>Ceanothus</i>	
Arrowleaf balsamroot	
<i>Armillaria</i> root rot	
Douglas-fir mistletoe	
Pileated Woodpecker	
Elk*	
Flammulated Owl	
Red-backed vole*	
Pine marten*	

Assignment: Produce a play that shows the audience about your forest type, the fires that usually occur there, and how the forest changes over time. Here's a strategy you can try: Use a TV interviewer to ask each organism about its life. The organism can reminisce or use a flashback to show how the forest looked 100 years ago, soon after a fire. Then change the forest (costumes, masks, or props) to 10 or 30 or 100 years later, and interview the organisms again. Eventually, get to the present time and show what the forest is like.

Steps:

1. Fill out the table above. The asterisks mean that you will have to share that organism with other forest types.
2. Learn about succession. Look at the *Pathways in Time* booklet for your forest type. You can read the narrative for the feltboard story for your forest type, too, to find out what the land looked like after fires in the past and how it changed over time.
3. Use the pages for your characters from the *FireWorks Notebook* to find out what each character looks like, where it likes to live, and how it "makes its living" in the forest. Find out if it likes to live in a forest just after fire or many years after fire, or all the time.
4. Prepare and practice your play.
5. Make your masks or costumes.
6. Produce your play for your class or another audience. After you're done, ask the audience for questions.

* "Share" this organism with the other ecosystems.

