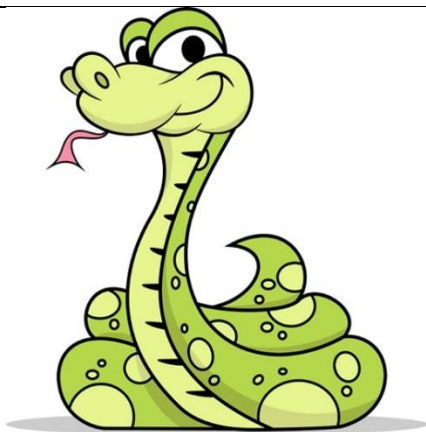
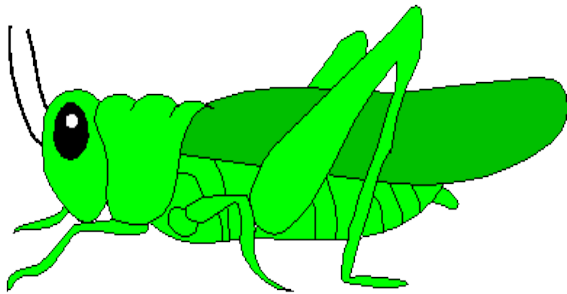
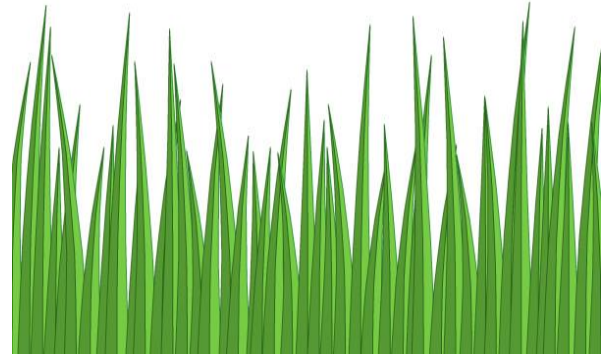
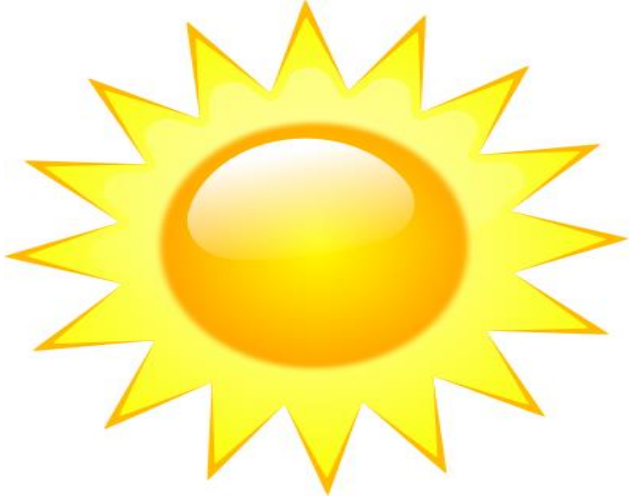


Activity	Description	Program
Opening	<p>Have a quick chat about the vast variety of life in forest ecosystems. Think about a forest near you and describe its ecosystem – the things found in the forest – and list them. Remind them that forests are made up of trees, shrubs, ferns, soils, water, insects, mammals, birds, slugs, mushrooms, ants and many more species that we cannot even see with the human eye.</p>	<p>This complete meeting would earn you a Key to the Living World Special Interest badge.</p>
Game	<p>Food Chain Reaction Game</p> <p>This activity will show the relationship between plants and animals. Print off the pictures at the end of this meeting plan. You will print off as many as groups of girls you would like to have.</p> <p>Have the girls put them in order.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forest Eco System- sun, grass, grasshopper, frog, snake, owl <p>Now remove the frog-more grasshoppers as no one will eat them, they will eat all the grass and leave. If there are no grasshoppers the snakes will have no food so they will leave. Owls will have to look for other food and may have to move.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Arctic eco system- sun, algae, shrimp, fish, seal, polar bear <p>Now remove the fish. There will be more shrimp, who will eat the algae and it will be gone, shrimp will then leave, this leaves no food for the fish, no fish so seals are hungry and move to another area, polar bears will look for other food or move on.</p>	
Activity	<p>Living Forest</p> <p>You are going to turn the room into a forest eco system so that the girls can explore the effects of the loss of a forest habitat on the species living there.</p> <p>Use pieces of construction paper or cardboard to create signs listing some of the things they identified earlier as part of a forest ecosystem, such as tree, shrub, fern, mole, mouse, coyote and other wildlife.</p> <p>Tape the signs onto chairs and tables around the room where</p>	

	<p>they most expect these species to live. Move these around the room to better represent a forest filled with a variety of trees, plants, soils, waterways and wetlands, and other ecosystem components.</p> <p>Then ask the Brownies to decide what role they wish to play in this forest ecosystem. They need to select their species and then determine where that species would most likely live. They can choose to be a plant or an animal, but it must be something that would live in that particular forest community.</p> <p>Next, have the Brownies select a location in the room that they believe would provide ideal habitat for their species. If they choose to live near the window, that would mean more sunlight for them to grow (a young seedling or shade intolerant tree, such as poplar or aspen) or to gain body heat (a snake). If they choose to live under a table, they might need shade that the forest canopy provides (shade tolerant seedlings such as sugar maple or red oak) or cover (deer, mice and other prey species would need cover to hide from their predators).</p> <p>Now that everyone has a place. Talk about a shrinking habitat. What if the forest gets smaller.....what happens? What if there was no water for one season....what would happen?</p> <p>This activity will get the girls thinking and sharing. If you have several Guiders be sure they are walking around and talking to the girls about their choices.</p>	
<p>Craft</p>	<p>Diorama</p> <p>Each girl will need a shoe box or Kleenex box. You will also need clay, fake foliage (look at Dollar stores). You will also need small plastic animals, paint and any other craft supplies that would work.</p> <p>Have the girls create an eco system in their boxes. It is helpful to have some glue guns plugged in to glue the pieces in. The girls can paint and use clay to make hills, ponds etc.</p>	
<p>Closing</p>	<p>If you have time end your meeting with a few of your favorite songs about animals.</p>	

Forest Eco System cards



Arctic Eco System Cards

